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The Bombay Gazette.

No. 50,663—NEW SERIES. BOMBAY:—THURSDAY, APRIL 16, 1896.

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Vessels.	Tons.	Captains.	SATURDAY, 2 P.M. 1896.
R.M.L. AUSTRALIA ..	6901	I. Reeves .....18th April
R.V.L. CLYDE	4136	R. G. Murray.....25th "
R.M.L. CALEDONIA ...	7588	W. B. Andrews ..2nd May.
† SUTLEJ	4202	A. Symons .....9th "
B.L. CARTHAGE	6263	M. DeHorne .....16th "
		FRIDAY, 5 P.M.
‡ GANGES	4206	T. F. Creery.....22nd May.
B.L. ORIENTAL	5284	L. H. Moule .....29th "
† SUTLEJ	4205	A. Symons..... 5th June.
B.L. SHANNON.....	4192	E. Crewe .....12th "
‡ GANGES	4206	T. F. Creery.....19th "
B.L. PENINSULAR	5207	R. F. Briscoe .....26th "

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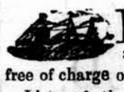

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To receive and adopt the Directors' Report and Audited Balance-Sheet made up to 31st December, 1895.

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SUB-AGENCY—MURREE.

Summarised Statement of Affairs, year ended 31st December, 1895.

LIABILITIES.

Capital paid-up	Rs.	24,45,110	0 0
Reserves and Rest	,,	10,79,540	12 8
Deposits.....	,,	97,19,594	10 5
Bankers Balances.....	,,	11,749	2 8
Bills and Acceptances	,,	7,17,549	0 5
Sundries	,,	1 13,006	2 11
Total.....	Rs.	1,40,86,549	13

ASSETS.

Cash	Rs.	9,18,969	10 2
Government and other Authorised Securities	,,	4,86,145	9 4
Loans, Bills, Advances	,,	1,19 08,402	9 4
Properties, Dead Stock	,,	1,93,193	15 2
Bills, Contra, Sundries	,,	5,79,901	1 1
Total.....	Rs.	1,40,86,549	13 1

N. B.—Fixed Deposits received at 5, 4½, 4, 3½ and 3 per cent. per annum for 36, 12, 9, 6 and 3 months respectively.

By Order of the Board,
F. D. STRANACK,
Manager.
Esplanade Road, Bombay.

THE YOKOHAMA SPECIE BANK, LD,

SUBSCRIBED CAPITAL.....	Yen	6,000,000 =	Rs. 1,20,00,000
PAID UP CAPITAL...	,,	4,500,000 =	,, 90,00,000
RESERVE FUND.....	,,	4,090,000 =	,, 8,40,000

HEAD OFFICE:—YOKOHAMA.

BRANCHES AND AGENCIES:

Kobe, London, Lyons, New York, San Francisco, Hawaii, and Shanghai.

BANKERS—The LONDON JOINT STOCK BANK: The UNION BANK of LONDON: PARR'S BANKING COMPANY & THE ALLIANCE BANK, LIMITED.

BOMBAY AGENCY:

LIBERAL INTEREST allowed on CURRENT ACCOUNT and FIXED DEPOSITS, on Terms to be learned on application.

CREDITS granted on approved Securities, and every description of Banking and Exchange Business transacted.

DRAFTS granted on JAPAN, and the Chief Commercial places in the World.

M. TOSHIMA,
Agent.
Sridar's Palace, Apollo Street, Fort Bombay.

INSURANCES.

SUN LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY OF INDIA, LD.

BOMBAY OFFICE.—29, ESPLANADE ROAD.
LIFE, ACCIDENT AND GUARANTEE.

LIFE DEPARTMENT.

THIS Company offers unusual advantages to intending Assurers. The tables are popular and easily understood. The POLICIES are the most liberal offered to the Public, and ARE FREE FROM ALL UNNECESSARY RESTRICTIONS, WORLD-WIDE and UNCONDITIONAL Policies, LARGE GUARANTEED BONUS OF 2 PER CENT. per annum on the sum Assured.

ACCIDENT DEPARTMENT.

THE POLICIES of this Company cover Accidents of all kinds incurred in Sport, Business, or Travel at Home or abroad without restriction.

Ordinary Risks.—Rs. 50 per annum will Secure Rs. 10,000 on Death; Rs. 10,000 on Permanent Total Disablement; Rs. 5,000 on Permanent Partial Disablement; Rs. 50 Weekly during Temporary Total Disablement; Rs. 15 Weekly during Temporary Partial Disablement.

GUARANTEE DEPARTMENT.

Suretyship undertaken for the Fidelity of Persons in situations of Trust on the yearly payment of a small sum.

The Different kinds of Risks have been carefully classified, and the Company is in a position to undertake all risks at the Lowest Possible Rates.

Full particulars may be obtained from
ALDRIDGE, SALMON & CO., LD.,
Chief Agents.

FIRE INSURANCE.

		Exclusive Reserve Fund
The NORTHERN ASSURANCE Co., CAPITAL	£	3,000,000
The GENERAL INSURANCE Co., CAPITAL, incld. RESERVE FUND.....	,,	3,000,000
The TRANSATLANTIC FIRE INSURANCE Co., CAPITAL.....	M	6,000,000
The NORTH GERMAN FIRE INSURANCE Co., CAPITAL.....	,,	7,500,000
The HAMBURG-BREMEN FIRE INSURANCE Co., CAPITAL.....	,,	6,000,000
The FIRE INSURANCE Co., of 1877, CAPITAL.....	,,	2,600,000
The BALOISE FIRE INSURANCE Co., CAPITAL .....Frs		10,000,000
The BATAVIA FIRE INSURANCE Co., CAPITAL ..... Fl		3,000,000
The SAMARANG FIRE INSURANCE Co., CAPITAL.....	,,	2,000,000

MARINE INSURANCE.

BOMBAY.

TO-DAY.

Second Criminal Sessions, 11 a.m.
Municipal Corporation, 3 p.m.
Aurungabad Spinning and Manufacturing Company, Victoria Buildings, 3-30 p.m.
Alcock Ashdown and Co., Bank Street, 5 p.m.
Bombay Natural History Society, 5-30 p.m.
European Civil Service Association meeting, Commissioner's Office, High Court, 5-30 p.m.

PRINCE'S DOCK.—The steamer Skidby entered the dock on Tuesday, and the steamer Clyde yesterday; the steamer City of Khios left it on Tuesday.

VICTORIA DOCK.—The steamer Mirzapore left the dock yesterday.

ANJUMAN-E-ELMI-E-FARSI.—A meeting will be held this evening, at 5-30, in the hall of the New High School, Hornby Road, Fort, when Mirza Mohammed Behbani will deliver a lecture in Persian on "Progress." The Persian Consul-General will preside.

FORT GRATUITOUS DISPENSARY.—The total number of patients treated during the month of March last was 3,332, daily average 108, and the total number of new admissions 1,597—Parsis 1,019, Hindus 453, and other castes 125. The number of children vaccinated was 559.

CARRIAGE ACCIDENT AT THE NEPEAN SEA ROAD.—About 8 o'clock, on Tuesday evening, a carriage belonging to Mrs. Jumnadas Nursey Khatao was being driven along the Nepean Sea Road, when the horse shied and jumped our the wall into the sea, leaving the carriage on the road. The horse was much injured, and the shafts of the carriage (brougham) were broken. Two Native gentlemen, who were in the carriage, escaped unhurt.

POSTAL NOTICES.—Mails for Seychelles, Mombassa, Zanzibar, Mozambique, Beira, Inhambane, Delagoa Bay, Natal and Cape Colony, per extra s. s. Chindwara, will be closed at the General Post Office, at 7 p.m., to-morrow (Friday).—Mails for Tanga, Daressalam, Zanzibar, Pangani, Bagamoyo, Kilwa, Lindi, Ibo, Mozambique, Quilimane, Chinde, Delagoa Bay, Natal, East London, Algoa Bay, and Cape Town, per extra s. s. Setos, will be closed at the General Post Office, at 9-30 a.m., to-morrow (Friday).—Mails for Singapore and Hongkong, per extra s. s. Brindisi, will be closed at the General Post Office, at 10 a.m., to-morrow (Friday).

DEFAMING A NEIGHBOUR.—Yesterday, at the Esplanade Police Court, before Mr. Sanders-Slater, Mr. Crage, pleader, prosecuted Yusufally for defaming his client, Moosa Valiji, on the 18th instant. Accused represented falsely to Mr. Abdul Cadar, a landlord and merchant at Cannanore, that complainant was a gambler, a low character, and a member of the "Golden Gang." He also represented that complainant extorted money from people by false representations. Evidence for the prosecution showed that accused repeated the statement in the presence and hearing of several persons in a tram-car. The charge being proved, accused was fined Rs. 100.

BOMBAY NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY.—A meeting of the members will be held, this afternoon, at the Society's Rooms, at 6, Apollo Street, at 5-30 p.m., when the following papers will be read:—1. The Indian Wild Dog, by Mr. J. D. Inverarity. 2. The Sheuia Plant (Amorphophaltus commutatus) and its correct description, by Dr. J. C. Lisboa. 3. The butterflies of Mussoorie and neighbouring regions, by Mr. P. W. Mackinnon and Mr. L. de Niceville. 4. On some earth worms from India, by Sophia M. Fedarb. 5. Birds collected during five years' residence in the Hala Kandy district, Cachar, by Mr. C. M. Inglis. Miscellaneous Notes:—(a) Notes from Deesa, by Mr. W. Light. (b) Strange behaviour of Crows, by Mr. W. Sutherland.

CHURCH NEWS.—A numerously-signed petition has been presented by the parishioners of St. Peter's Church, Bandora, to the Very Rev. Fr. J. Hoene, S. J., Vicar-General of the Archdiocese of Bombay, through the Rev. Fr. G. Waldman, S.J., Superior of the Church, regarding the rumoured transfer of the Rev. Fr. Peter Fernandez. In their petition they humbly pray that the transfer may not take place, as the said Rev. Father did invaluable service in spiritual matters, to the native-speaking parishioners in particular. In short, they fervently trust that the Very Rev. Fr. J. Hoene, S.J., on whom they look as their spiritual Father, will not reject the humble supplications of his ever loyal and loving parishioners, as the transfer of the said Rev. Father will be deeply felt.

AGAIN AT IT.—Before Mr. P. H. Dastur, Fourth Presidency Magistrate, at the Mazagon Police Court, yesterday, Hussein Abdoola, a Mahomedan of notorious character, was charged by Inspector Sloane with stealing a copper tea-pot, worth Re. 1-8, belonging to a Mahomedan woman, named Fatma, residing at Khoja Street, Null Bazaar. About 5 p.m., on Monday before last, Fatma closed the door of her room, and having secured it with a padlock, went on a visit to a neighbour. During her absence accused, who was residing in the same locality, entered the room through a whole above the door, and carried away the tea-pot, which he then sold to a Marwree for twelve annas. Accused, against whom stood a register of two previous convictions, was sentenced to six months' imprisonment with hard labour.

FATAL FALL INTO A SHIP'S HOLD.—A coroner's inquiry was held, yesterday, at the Goculdas Tejpal Hospital, regarding the death of Narayen Baloo, aged thirty, lately a labourer, employed on board the steamship Jupiter, then lying in the stream. In the afternoon of the 8th instant, deceased, who was a resident of Oomercarry, was sweeping the twin deck of the ship when the deck became so full of coal dust, that he was unable to see before him, and he fell into the hold, a height of about 40 feet, sustaining injuries to his head and face. He was picked up unconscious, bleeding from the nose and ears, and taken to the Goculdas Tejpal Hospital, where he died at 1 o'clock yesterday morning. The medical evidence went to show that the death was due to fracture of the base of the skull, and the jury returned a verdict of accidental death in accordance with that evidence.

DEATH FROM TETANUS.—An inquiry was held, yesterday, by Mr. Turner, the coroner, at the Goculdas Tejpal Hospital, on view of the body of a Borah lad, named Abdul Hoosein Yusafalli, aged eight, residing with his uncle at Abdul Rahiman Street. About half-past 3 o'clock, on the afternoon of the 8th instant, deceased was playing near a labour cart, standing in Narayen Dharoo Street, when the bullocks attached to the cart, backed, with the result that one of the wheels grazed the deceased's left heel, tearing the skin of the heel about two inches long. The lad was conveyed to the Goculdas Tejpal Hospital, and after treatment was taken home by the uncle. Tuesday last symptoms of tetanus developed, when deceased was again brought to the hospital, where he died at 8 o'clock yesterday morning. The house-surgeon was of opinion that the death was due to tetanus, and the jury brought in a verdict accordingly.

AN OLD OFFENDER.—At the Mazagon Police Court, yesterday, Inspector Sloane charged Bhicoo Dhakoo, an old offender, having a record of two previous convictions against him, before Mr. W. R. Hamilton, with theft of a silver watch, of the value of Rs. 20, the property of Ameena, a Mahomedan woman, residing at Erskine Road, Null Bazaar. On Monday afternoon, the prosecutrix went to a water-pipe, when the accused, taking advantage of her absence, entered her room and stole the watch, which he then sold to a hawker at Chindbi Bazaar for a trivial amount. The prosecutrix returned to her room, and finding the watch missing, reported to the police and gave the name of the accused as the man on whom she rested her suspicion as he was in the habit of visiting her room frequently. The police arrested the accused, and recovered the watch from the hawker. The accused pleaded guilty to the charge, and also admitted two previous convictions, His Worship sentenced him to six months' rigorous imprisonment.

DROWNED IN THE SEA.—Mr. Allan F. Turner, the coroner, held an inquiry, yesterday, at Walkeshwar Road, regarding the death of a Hindu woman, named Suckoo, aged twenty-two years, residing at that locality. Deceased was the wife of one Mahadoo, who left her about ten or twelve years azo, as she was subject to epileptic fits, and since then she supported herself by working as a labourer. She had epileptic fits at irregular intervals, and twice she fell into the Walkeshwar Tank when she had fits, and she was rescued by the ramoosee on duty at the tank. On Tuesday morning, Suckoo went to the sea at the back of the Walkeshwar Tank to wash clothes, and while she was doing so, she was attacked with a fit, and was drowned. About noon her dead body was found lying in some water in a hollow amongst the rocks, below high-water mark. There were no marks of violence on the body, and there was found lying near it a wet "saree," belonging to deceased. A verdict of accidental death by drowning in the sea was recorded.

THE PINJRAPOLE.—Mr. K. M. Shroff, honorary secretary of the Bombay S. P. C. A., has been unanimously elected a trustee of the Bombay Pinjrapole, in the place of the late Mr. Edulji Bomanji Morria. This home of rest (the Pinjrapole) for the old, diseased, cast off, and stray animals was established in 1834 by Sir Jamsetji Jeejeebhoy, the first Parsee Baronet, with the co-operation of the late Shett Motisha, and some leading Hindu merchants of the day, and has ever since been maintained by a system of voluntary taxation by the entire Hindu mercantile community. The Pinjrapole has a large central establishment in the city at Bhuleshwar, where about 1,000 animals are kept. It has branches at Chimore, near Coorla, where there are about 900 animals, at Bhimadi, where 2,000 animals are fed, and at Rayata about 325. The Trust Fund of the Pinjrapole amounts to about Rs. 12,00,000, and the annual income of the institution is about Rs. 1,50,000. The Pinjrapole, besides maintaining itself and its branches at a heavy annual cost, gives annual pecuniary relief to about 53 smaller Pinjrapoles in different towns in the Mofussil, and spends about Rs. 25,000 for this grant-in-aid every year.

A BRUTAL HUSBAND.—At the Esplanade Police Court, yesterday, Mr. J. Sanders-Slater, Chief Persidency Magistrate, disposed of the case in which Ramji Natha stood charged with ill-treating his wife Luxmibai in a brutal manner. Accused noticed a pair of new gold bangles on the wrist of his wife and asked her how she got the same. She explained that she had obtained some money on loan and had purchased the bangles out of it. Accused, who had become very suspicious from the beginning, would not accept this explanation, and without making any further enquries, he tied his wife to a pillar and gave her severe blows with a stick, which left marks for some time on her person. Evidence having been heard and the charge proved, his Worship remarked that accused's act in giving such ill-treatment to his wife was a brutal one, and the court had better tie him up and give thirty stripes on his bare person. The offence being a serious one, his Worship at all events would not let him go by payment of a fine only, but would sentence him to 21 days' rigorous imprisonment. Mr. Balkrishna, solicitor, appeared in court soon after this and put in a plea ad-misericordiam, as the wife was punished for her bad conduct. His Worship replied that he would not tolerate such brutality, and was determined to put it down.

A DISAPPOINTED MEMON.—About noon, on Tuesday last, Inspector Mayers received information at the Pydhownie Police Station that a man had locked himself up in a room in Memonwada, and that he had not been seen by the neighbours since that morning. Inspector Mayers proceeded to the house, and found the door closed and fastened on the inside. He called out, but getting no reply, the officer broke open the door, when he found the man lying in an unconscious state on the cot. From inquiries it was ascertained that the man, whose name was Rahaiman Poonja, aged forty, had been despondent for some time past owing to the death of his wife and son about six months ago, and the recent elopement of his son's wife. On the previous evening, Rehaiman, before going to bed, secured the door of his room from inside and took a quantity of opium, and then went to sleep. As he was not seen on the following morning as usual, and as the door remained closed, the police were informed. The police had the man removed to the J. J. Hospital, where, on examination, he was found to have been suffering from opium-poisoning. He was detained under treatment, but he never regained consciousness, and died shortly before midnight. Inspector Mayers examined the room of the deceased, and found his "pheta" on the cot, which smelt strongly of opium. Mr. Allan F. Turner, the coroner, held an inquiry, yesterday morning, at the J. J. Hospital, on view of the body of the deceased, when the jury brought in a verdict of suicide.

AN UNDERTAKER IN TROUBLE.—Before Mr. J. Sanders-Slater, Chief Presidency Magistrate, at the Esplanade Police Court, yesterday, Mr. Hugh Sealy, pleader, appeared on behalf of Mr. W. George, of the Central Press, in the case in which William Henry Brewer, an undertaker, stood charged with criminal breach of trust, and asked permission to withdraw the charge. On the 15th July, 1895, Mr. George gave the undertaker two sums of Rs. 20 and Rs. 270, respectively, for the erection of a tomb-stone and purchase of ground. Until February last accused having done nothing towards erecting the stone or purchasing the ground, Mr. George made enquiries at the Municipal Office. The Municipal authorities, after going into the case, withdrew Brewer's license and recommended Mr. George to prosecute him. After a process was issued and accused liberated on bail, he on his motion tried to get ground from the Municipality, but the latter refused to have anything to do with him. He, thereupon, purchased ground through a man, named Ismail, and the tombstone had now been erected. Under the circumstances Mr. Sealy said the prosecution were not willing to lead evidence against him. In reply to the court, accused said that, owing to pecuniary difficulties, he could not do the work, besides he could not erect the stone in the absence of plans. The magistrate observed that, having regard to the fact that accused had already been punished to some extent, his business being stopped, he would accept Mr. Sealy's suggestion not to lead evidence in the matter. The accused was discharged.

DINNER TO SURGEON LIEUTENANT-COLONEL BOYD.

RAJA-I-RAJAMAN RAJA SHEW RAJ DHARMAWANT BAHADUR, of Hyderabad, who has had his eye treated by Surgeon Lieutenant-Colonel Boyd, gave, on Monday last, a dinner at the Apollo Hotel to mark his appreciation of the professional services of the doctor. The dining hall was tastefully decorated with evergreens and flowers, and everything looked neat and grand. Among those that attended the dinner were the Hon'ble Mr. Justice Budrudin Tyabji, Nawab Mahasinulmulk, H. E. the Consul-General of Persia, Nawab Fateh Ali Mirza of Moorshidabad, Mirza Abbas Ali Beg, Mrs. and Miss Brown, Nawabzada Nasrulla Khan, Mr. Mant, Mr. Reddin, Surgeon-Major Lyle, and Mirza Nazir Beg. At the close of the dinner, Raja Inder Karan, the nephew of the host, proposed the toast of the Doctor, which was heartily responded to by the guests.

Raja Inder Karan said: I, on behalf of my uncle, rise to perform the most pleasant duty of this evening; that of proposing the toast of Dr. and Mrs. Boyd. Surgeon Lieut-Colonel Boyd is known throughout Bombay as a distinguished physician, and a leading light of the profession. I am sure everyone here present would agree with me in thinking that in attaining the professional eminence he has reached, he has but reaped a due reward of a professional career full of acts of kindness and self-denial. I on my part am very much indebted to Dr. Boyd for the great benefit he has done to the eyes of my uncle. I also take this opportunity of thanking Mrs. Boyd for the honour she has done to this company by her presence here to-night, and my uncle particularly appreciates this favour of hers. Thanking you all, gentlemen, for the honour you have done to my uncle by your presence here, I ask you all to drink copiously to the health of Dr. and Mrs. Boyd, and may they enjoy a long life full of happiness, ever blessed by those that have the good fortune of coming in contact with them.

Dr. Boyd then made a suitable reply, and proposed the host's health, which was heartily drunk. The party dispersed after the usual distribution of attar and flowers.

THE MADRAS UNITED SPINNING AND WEAVING MILLS.

THE twenty-second annual general meeting of shareholders was held yesterday, at the registered office, Mr. Vandravandas Purshotumdas, chairman of the board of directors, presiding. The following directors' report was submitted:—

The directors beg now to report to the shareholders that, as will appear from the audited balance-sheet and profit and loss accounts for the year ending 31st December last, the company has made a profit of Rs. 2,04,541-11-10, including the balance of Rs. 472-12-8, brought forward from the last year's account. The directors therefore propose to the shareholders to divide the same amount of profit as under:—To amount absorbed in payment of an ad-interim dividend at Rs. 100 per whole and Rs. 25 per quarter share for the half-year ending 30th June, 1895, Rs. 50,050; to amount now proposed to be divided at Rs. 120 per whole and Rs. 30 per quarter share for the second half-year ending 31st December, 1895, absorbing Rs 60,060; to amount set aside to meet excess of expenditure on machinery and building account, Rs. 90,000; to bonus to company's employes; Rs. 3,000; to balance to next year's account, Rs. 1,431-11-10; total Rs. 2,04,541-11-10. As alluded to in the last report, the directors have availed themselves of an opportunity to order out for the mill about 10,000 ring spindles with their necessary blow-room and the preparatory machinery, some of which have arrived and will be in the course of erection and working within a short time. Messrs. Vandravandas Purshotumdas and Lukhmidas Waljee retire by rotation, but are eligible for re-election. The shareholders have to appoint auditors for the current year and to fix their remuneration.

The report and audited accounts were adopted and confirmed. A dividend of Rs. 100 per whole and Rs. 25 per quarter share for the half-year ending 30th June, 1895, was declared. The retiring directors were re-elected, and auditors appointed. A vote of thanks to the chairman concluded the proceedings.

THE POONA COTTON AND SILK MANUFACTURING COMPANY.

LAST week, the seventh ordinary general meeting of shareholders of the above company was held in the head office of the mill, when the audited balance-sheet and profit and loss account for the year ending 31st December last were submitted for approval. The account showed a gross profit of Rs. 10,199, out of which Rs. 48,195 were paid for interest on loans, leaving a profit of Rs. 53,004, which, considering the small size of the mill, was considered satisfactory. Rs. 7,000 were carried to the depreciation of machinery account, Rs. 10,000 to preliminary charges, and Rs. 8,000 to the reserve fund, leaving a balance of Rs. 28,000 and odd, out of which a dividend at the rate of Rs. 20 per share was declared payable, the remainder, about Rs. 3,000, being carried to the next year's account. During the last year Rs. 27,895 were spent in adding machinery, a boiler, 17 Jacquards for silk, finishing presses, &c. The mill was also fitted with electric lights; and two godowns were built for storing cotton and waste. The directors, Messrs. Vishnu Moreshwar Bhide and Abdulla Abdul Vahed, who retired by rotation, were re-elected. Mr. Vishnu Hari Sathoy was re-appointed auditor. The usual votes of thanks were passed, after which the meeting was dissolved.

KEEPING AN EATING-HOUSE WITHOUT A LICENSE.

THE following is the full text of the judgment delivered by Mr. W. R. Hamilton, Second Presidency Magistrate, in the case in which Elahibux Fakirmahomed, was re-tried on a charge of keeping an eating-house without a license from the Commissioner of Police. The facts of the case have been already reported. Mr. Ardeshir Framji Unwalla, solicitor, appeared for the accused.

His Worship, in delivering judgment, said: "The accused had repeatedly applied for a license and was told that he would get one if he removed to a larger shop. As he did not remove, he was prosecuted by the police and acquitted, because the only ground for refusing a license was that the shop was too small. Assuming that the Police Commissioner has a discretion in refusing a license on this ground, the object of such license is to promote good order, and this end is in no way promoted by interfering with the size of a shop, nor would it secure the good behaviour of the keeper of this tea-shop. The High Court in review, ordered the re-trial, but it does not appear that the grounds of the acquittal were made known to the High Court for it was tried summarily, and the solicitor, Mr. Unwalla, who appeared for the accused, informs me that the High Court was inclined to believe that as no evidence had been taken the case ought to be re-heard and the grounds for refusing the license should be ascertained. The case has, therefore, been re-heard. It now appears that the reason why a license is refused is that, if the shop is small, the customers generally sit on benches on the road-side and obstruct the traffic. The accused denied that his costomers cause this obstruction and says that he has benches inside his shop for the convenience of his customers and that the benches outside do not belong to him. It appeared that there were other shops in the vicinity, and that it was not improbable that the obstruction was caused by these shops and their customers. Therefore, the case was postponed for a month to see whether the obstruction was caused by this shop, and the evidence shows that no obstraction has been caused by this shop. Nor does it appear that the accused has ever been fined for obstructing the traffic or that he has even been prosecuted for that offence. It appears to me that if the accused were convicted of that offence and it was a habit of his customers to obstruct the traffic, the Commissioner might be justified in refusing a license for the purpose of preventing disorder in the street. This is a possible reading of the section. But I do not think the Commissioner in refusing a license should assume that the obstruction, if any exists, is caused by the accused. These facts are observed and they should be proved. Even if proved, the proper punishment is a fine, and the Municipal Act gives power to remove any bench which is placed on the road. It does not appear to me, therefore, that the Police Commissioner has taken the proper course in this matter. The accused has had his shop in the present place for about 15 years and he has not been charged with any misbehaviour, nor has he been charged or fined for obstructing the road. Therefore to refuse a licence when he applies for it does not appear to be the proper course and then to prosecute him for not having a license when the Commissioner himself refuses, rather capriciously, to give him one. The Commissioner may have a discretion in the matter, but his discretion should be exercised in a reasonable manner. I do not think it should be justified in fining a person for neglecting to take out a license when he has done everything he can do to obtain one and it is withheld on very insufficient grounds. It also appears to me very doubtful if a little tea-shop retailing to customers is such a place of public resort or entertainment as requires a license under sections 11 and 12 of Act 48 of 1860. Those sections are aimed at hotels, taverns, coffee-houses and boarding-houses, and the general word which follows should not be stretched so as to include any place which is not clearly within the description of the particular word. A coffee-house implies a large and commodious establishment and can hardly include a miserable place where a few cups of hot tea are retailed for a pice or two to the labouring classes. I doubt, therefore, whether under any circumstances the accused requires a license. Under the circumstances, and assuming it was the intention of the High Court that the case should be retried more elaborately than was done on the first summary proceedings, I am unable to conclude that the accused requires a license at all for a petty tea-shop, and next, that as he has done everything he ought to in order to obtain a license, and as the Commissioner refuses to give him one on insufficient grounds he ought not to be made criminally responsible. I therefore cannot punish him.

THE WEATHER.

OBSERVATIONS TAKEN AT 8 A.M. ON WEDNESDAY THE 15TH OF APRIL, 1896.

SUMMARY.

Pressure has increased briskly to rapidly in the Punjab, the North-West Provinces and at Jeypore and Saugor, and has been steady or has changed only slightly elsewhere. Readings are highest in Ceylon and lowest in the North-West Provinces. Gradients are slight. Winds are north-westerly to south-westerly in many places. The force has been fresh to strong; dust storms and gales are reported from Delhi, Jeypore, Ajmere, Sangor, Jubulpore, Khandwa and Masulipatam. This mording the wind velocity was 24 miles an hour at Masulipatam, 18 at Bhuj and Jacobabad, 16 at Akola and 14 at Ahmednagar. The maximum temperature is in very large excess of the average at Allahabad, Karachi and Secunderabad, and the minimum similarly so at Allahabad, Jacobabad, Bhuj, Khandwa and Akola. The highest temperature in the shade was 112° at Nagpur, and the lowest 65° at Belgaum. Humidity has increased considerably in Sind and Ceylon, and the skies are cloudy to overcast at Hoshangabad, Malegaon, Calicut, Cochin, Madras, Negapatam and Colombo. There has been no rain at any of the reporting stations. The depression near Agra noticed in yesterday's report has filled up and the weather is generally fine.

W. C. NIGEL JONES,
Acting Meteorological Reporter for Western India.

[BY TELEGRAPH.]

SIMLA, APRIL 15.

Wednesday's pressure has increased slightly to rapidly over North-West India, the Gangetic Plain and the Central Provinces and has decreased elsewhere. Readings are lowest over Central Bengal where a well marked depression exists and is relatively low along the foot of North-West Himalayas. Readings are highest in Tenasserim and steepish gradients prevail over the Bay and Bengal. Winds are Cyclonic over Bengal, southerly over the Bay and generally westerly elsewhere. Strong winds and gales have prevailed over a large part of the country. The temperature has fallen over North-West India, Gujarat and Central India and had been steady elsewhere. The fall has been very rapid in some North-West stations and the mean temperature is below normal in the Punjab, though still excessive in other provinces. The highest maximum is a hundred and fourteen degrees in Chaibassa. Showers have occurred over North-East India, Dhubri reporting over three inches.

METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATORY.

GOVERNMENT OBSERVATORY, COLABA.

Bombay, 14th April 1896.

Means of observations taken at 6 a.m., 10 a.m., 2 p.m., 4 p.m. and 10 p.m.

Barometer corrected 32 deg. Fah ..... inches	29·733
Temperature of the Air ..... degrees	83·9
Wet Bulb Thermometer	72·4
Dew Point	76·4
Relative humidity of Air	78
Extent of cloud by sky (the whole sky clouded = 16)	0·6
Maximum temperature of air (read at 8 a.m. next day) ..... degrees	89·4
Minimum do. do. (read at 8 a.m.)	78·0
General Directions of wind *	SW, WNW, WSW, W.
Movement of Wind in 24 hours ..... miles	130

* From midnight to midnight.

HIGH COURT.—APRIL 16.

(Before the Hon. Mr. Justice B. TYABJEE.)

For Dismissal.

108-86—Payne & Co and S. Abdulla bin Yahi vs Abdul Aziz bin Hawaj bin Mazi—Pramjee M and M.

847-92—K D Shroff—Abdool Kareem and others vs Mariambai and others Edgelow and G—Tyabjee D and Co, Bicknell M and M, and Postonjee R and K, (for Consent Decree.)

Suits for hearing and final disposal.

Short Causes.

115-96—Wadia and G—Govind Motesjee and others vs Damodher Wasudeo Jo-bi—Cowasji M and M—Part heard.

141-96—Bhaishanker and K—Jeewandas Ebjee vs Fazal Mahomed Raisi and another—Brown and M.

184-93—Craigie L and O—John Parmenides vs Jeypal Sejpal.

176-96—Payne & Co and S—The New Mofussil Co Ld, vs Jeypal Sejpal.

For Investigation of Pauperism.

61-95—In person—Sittaram Bhai Sinar vs Mowjee Shunker and another.

4-96—In person—Esmaljee Sooltanally vs Buden Valad Imam Patel and another.

Postponed Long Causes.

241-95—Craigie L and O—Thomas Alfred Bulkley and another vs P C H Spow and another—Crawford B and Co—Part heard.

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WHERE IS NANSEN?

AT a sitting of the Russian Geographical Society in St Petersburg the other day Baron Toll, the celebrated Arctic explorer, read a letter he received on the 15th inst. from Professor Brogger, or Christiania, in which the letter, speaking of Dr Nansen, says:—

"Knowing Nansen's character as I do, I do not entertain any doubt as to the truth of the telegram concerning him, and can fully account to myself for his present situation. I do not doubt but that he is at present on his return journey from the North Pole. On taking leave of me at Tromsoe, nansen said—I reckon on being back in two or three years.

"Now, whoever knows Nansen has implicit faith in him. The obstacles presented in the Polar Sea cannot exceed the difficulties adorded by the ice floes off the East Coast of Greenland, or those presented by the ice fields of that continent.

"On this occasion, moreover, Nansen is fully twenty times better equipped than he was on his previous expedition, and his companions have been especially selected for the task.

"Personally, I have no doubt but that these thirteen man were able within two and a half years to work their way to the Pole. and I am firmly persuaded that they are on their way back. According to the telegram, Nansen discovered land at the Pole. and to

It is perfectly clear that he found the return journey by way of the New Siberian Islands more suitable. Land in neighbourhood of the North Pole is no doubt covered, like Greenland, with a thick layer of permanence ice, in which case he would only be able to explore the region in snow shes.

Under these circumstances he probably found it preferable to return south to the New Siberian Islands than to advance towds the west and southwest. I believe so firmly layer Nansen and his companions that I am convinced that the explorer reached the North Pole according to programme. News telegraphed could not have come from Nansen personally, even if he had reached the New Siberian Islands, because he would have been in no hurry to give news before he was assured that his achievement was complete, the safe return of the Fram to Norway being of capital importance. Dr. Nansen hoped to preserve the Fram for future expeditions, and that is why I do not expect further news of him until his return on board the Fram."

Baron Toll, after reading the letter, said—We also believe in Dr Nansen, and if he does not arrive at the period indicated by Plofesaor Brogger, there will be still time to send on an expedition to to explore the New Siberian Islands, and in each case if possible Sorulkoff Land.

THE SITUATION IN SOUTA AFRICA.

The "Times in a telegram the other day said;—"The following telegram from a well-informed correspondent in Pretoria, dated March 23, has been received in London, and has been forwarped to us for publication. The situation there is considered very serious. Present Kruger has concluded a new offensive and defensive alliance with the Orange Free State. The President of the Orange Free State and the Transvaal Executive Council strongly advice President Kruger not to go to England. The Transvaal wants to have its independence garanteed by England and connection with other Powers. The Boers are arming in the Free State and Cape Colony. A large influx of Germans is defraid into the police and artillery. Dr. Leyds has encouraged immigration from Germany, aud has used for the purpose a large amount of select service money. The Boers are feeling excited because of promised support by offpromised to support by the Free State and the Afrikanders in Cape Colony. It is very unlikely that President Kruger will go to England. The Transveaa, considers its position to be very strong. The Reform leaders are kept under guard at Pretoria. Their release is not very probable, and the date at trial is uncertain."

The London correspondent of the "Manchester Guardian" prints two remarkable interesting letters form South Africa. In one letter, written by an Englishman in Pretoria, the situation is summed up as follows:—"The problem of the Transvaal is now only a factor in South African politics. Kill every Boer in the Tsansvaal and you have not settled the question. To-day the two races, British and Dutch Afrikanders, are facing each other from here to the Cape. Only two things are possible. A reunion—as I have attempted to advocate here—or a sanguinary civil war to the death over the whole area. This is neither dream nor nightmare, and whichever should succeed inaugurates the foundation of the great South African Republic. To work out our own salvation and be done with Downing Street is now the prevalent and ever-growing sentiment. This feeling," the writer adds, "is perfectly unknown at home."

The other letter, "written by a man whose name, were I at liberty to use it, would command the utmost respect and confidence both here and in South Africa," is not less emphatic as to the dangers hat loom ahead

in that part of the African continant. It is dateo from Buluwayo, end gives a significant account of the revulsion of feeling that took place tnere when it became known that Jameson's ingress on of the Transv was without the justification originally claimed for it But the most weighthy part of the letter as the warning is gives as to tee feture. "It has,' the writer says, "been a ghastly business altogather; but had as itshas been the humilitiation which Englishmen have had to suffer throughout South Afaica, it willbe infiitely worse if from chagrin and mortification at Jameson's defeat the British Government goes to waw wite the Transvaal. If it does it will mean a civil war throughout South Africa, for at the very outset the Orango Free State will assist the Transvaal, and they will soon be joined by thusands of Dutchmen from the northern parts of Natal and the Dutch districts of the Cape Colonh." The witer adds that so coquer the Duch in South Africa, fighting in their own country and with right on their side, would require as many troops as were employed for the invasion of the Crimoa. That these views should be regarded as absurs and exaggerated in England is no more than the witer expectes and it is here that one of the principal elements of danger is to be found. It may safely be said that no one in England realises for a moment the possibility of a raciai war in South Africa, aad yet it is clear that in South Africa itself cool and competent observes do believe that the elements of such an incalculable disaster are in exsteence, and that the greatest care and skill will be required to avert a catastcophe.

THE GILGIT AGENCY.

A TELEGRAM from Gilgit, dated Saturday, 11th inst., says:—An interesting ceremony was this morning performed by Sir George Robertson, K. C. S. I., British Agent, in investing Captain G. H. Bretherton, D. A. C. G., with the insignia of the D. S. O., which honour was conferred upon this officer for his gallant services in the defence of Mastuj fort during the late Chitral disturbances. The troops in garrison paraded in front of the fort at ten o'clock under the command of Captain Medley, Inspecting Officer, Imperial Service troops; and all the British officers in the station were in attendance. Shortly after the hour Sir George Robertson, attended by Captain C. F. Minchin, Assistant British Agent, Lieutenant W. Beynon, D. S. O., Staff Officer, the Kashmir General, Suram Chand, and other native officers, rode on to the parade ground and immediately opened the proceedings. In a few happily chosen words, Sir George Robertson expressed the gratification it gave him to bestow on Captain Bretherton the honour which he so gallantly earned last year, this being the third investiture of the kind which it has been his (Sir George Robertson's) pleasing task to carry out in Gilgit, the earlier recipients having been Lieutenants Beynon and Stewart who accompanied Colonel Kelly's force on its famous march to the relief of the Chitral garrison. He hoped that the careers which had so auspiciously opened in this district and received such high recognition would be found equally interesting and remarkable in their later stages. Sir George Robertson then fastened the little badge of the Order on Captain Bretherton's breast, and the parade broke up, the troops returning to barracks.

The British Agent proceeded on Saturday on a tour of inspection to Gupis and Yasin, which is expected to last ten or twelve days. This will complete his visits to the outlying posts of the Agency during the season. The Agent has only recently returned from Nomal, while he visited Chilas last January.

THE Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal, writes a contemporary, has taken a leaf out of Mr. Balfour's book and closured the interpellations upon the provincial budget: whereat the Bengali prints are consumed with indignation. It cannot, however, be contended that any substantial injustice has has been done to the native members, for the Lieutenant-Governor carefully provided that "if there is any point on which any Hon'ble Member requires information, if he gives notice to the Financial Secretary, the matter will be attended to." A question of which notice has been given beforehand, is likely to obtain a more adequate answer than one sprung unawares in the midst of a debate, as witness the ordinary practice of the Imperial Parliament. The real grievance, however, was inadvertently let slip by a paper which spoke of "half-a-dozen questions, the disposal of which would not take as many minutes, but which fortunately have a tendency to put officials on their defence." The native member in fact likes to pose as an "Opposition," and see the members of the Government at his beck and call. But if the deprivation of this "privilege" is the most substantial grievance he has to complain of in the present innovation, he can hardly expect to obtain much sympathy.

MILITARY INTELLIGENCE.

ARRIVALS.—APRIL 14.

Congrive, Capt, Punjab Rifle Brigade on leave, from Rawal Pindi.

APRIL 15.

Maxwell, Capt, Punjab 10th B L on leave, from Jhelum.
Swaine, Col, Punjab XI Hussars on leave, from Jhelum.
Sandys, Lieut, Punjab R H A on leave, from Umballa.

DEPARTURES.—APRIL 15.

Glasgow, Capt, Punjab The Queens, on leave, to New Zealand.
Cowans, Capt, Punjab Seaforth High on leave, to Australia.
Elliott, Capt Punjab seaforth High on leave, to Australia.
Oldham, Lieut, Bo R A on leave, to Australia.
Kille Major, Bo 2nd S Lanc Regt on leave, to Deolali.
Hicks. Capt, Bo Lanc Fus, on leave, to Deolali.

BOMBAY VOLUNTEER ARTILLERY.

REGIMENTAL ORDERS BY CAPTAIN W. G. WILSON, COMMANDING B. V. A.

Bombay, 16th April, 1896.

1. Members are reminded that all arms and accoutrements must be returned to Fort Head-quarters at once, for inspection by the Civil Chief Master Armourer.

2. During the hot season there will be gun drill at the Fort Head-quarters at 8-30 p.m. on Tuesdays only and at Byculla Head-quarters at 8-30 p.m. on Thursdays commencing with the 21st instant.

By Order,
L. PENNY, Lieut.,
Ag. Adjutant, B. V. A.

BOMBAY VOLUNTEER RIFLES.

REGIMENTAL ORDERS BY COLONEL R. S. BROWN, V.D., COMMANDING B. V. R.

Bombay, 16th April, 1896.

1. The Annual Regimental Prize Distribution will take place at the Town Hall at 9 p.m. on Friday next the 17th inst. Officers Commanding Companies are requested to make their own arrangements for their prize lists and prizes.

The Bombay Vol. (Light Horse and Rifles) Rifle Association prizes will be distributed at the same time.

Dress for officers:—Mess Dress (red or white) for N.C. Officers, and Volunteers,—Mess Dress or uniform with helmets (Khaki).

2. The Rules made by the Governor General in Council as to allowances, pay and pensions to be granted to Volunteers when called out for actual Military Service are published and can be seen at head-quarters.

BOMBAY LIGHT HORSE.

1. Members in possession of saddlery, arms, and accoutrements, are requested to return the same at once to Head-quarters for the Annual Inspection.

By Order,
C. MOSS, Captain,
Adjutant, B. V. R.

NOTICE.

There will be a General Meeting of the Members of the Cricket Club at Head-quarters on Tuesday next the 27th instant, at 5-45 p.m.

Members and those wishing to join are requested to be present.

PROVINCIAL GAZETTE.

(*Punjab Gazette*, 9th April 1896.)

Surgeon-Major G F Nicholson, Medical Adviser to His Highness the Raja of Jind, has obtained special leave of absence, on urgent private affairs, for six months, under Article 348 of the Civil Service Regulations, with effect from the 18th of April 1896, or such subsequent date as he may avail himself of it.

The Rev H J Long, Chaplain of Umballa, has obtained privilege leave of absence for three months under Article 656 of the Civil Service Regulations, with effect from the 15th of April 1896, or such subsequent date as he may avail himself of it.

The Rev A Howard, M A, Chaplain of the Derajat, is appointed to officiate as Chaplain of Umballa during the absence of the Rev H J Long.

Mr A H Gunter, Officiating Under-Secretary to the Government of the Punjab, is confirmed in that appointment with effect from the 1

SPECIAL SHORT ADVERTISEMENTS.

The Scale for these Advertisements is as follows: Not exceeding 3 lines, Re. 1; each succeeding line, As. 8. No Trade Advertisements are admitted under this Scale.

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COMMERCIAL INTELLIGENCE

WEDNESDAY EVENING, APRIL 15.

CONSOLS and Indian Sterling Loan were unchanged in London yesterday at 110 5-8 and 120, respectively; 3½ per cent. Rupee Securities were ½ per cent. lower, at £63¾. The price of Bar Silver declined ¼d. per oz., say, to 30 13-16d.; and in New York the metal was 7/8 cent cheaper, at 67 3/8 cents per oz.; with demand Exchange on London unaltered, at 4·88¾ dollars. The market rate of discount on short London Bills was reduced 1/8th, say, to ½ per cent.; that on six months' sight Indian Bank Paper remaining at ½ per cent. French Rentes in Paris were unchanged at 101¼; Paris Exchange on London was a centime lower, at fcs. 25·16½.

The total quantity of wheat afloat for the U. K. yesterday was 2,110,000 quarters, or 30,000 quarters less than the estimate at the close of the previous week. Yellow Guzerat Rapeseed was quoted yesterday at 35 1-8s. per 416 lbs., sellers, April-May shipment to Havre, Antwerp, and Dunkirk, tone of the market quiet; and Linseed, at 34½s. per 416 lbs., business done, April-May shipment to Hamburg, market easier.

The decline of 1-16d. which took place in the price of spot Mid.-American Cotton in Liverpool on Monday was recovered yesterday, 4 3-8d. being quoted; and Arrivals were 3-64d. higher in all positions, the extreme quotations being 4 19-64d. for April deliveries, and 4 11-64d. for August-September. The market closed firm; Surats quiet; and Arrivals steady, the day's Sales having been 8,000 bales, inclusive of 100 East Indians. The Manchester market was quiet but steady.

In New York yesterday the price of ready Mid.-Uplands Cotton remained at 7 7-8 cents per lb.; July Futures being 2 points higher, at 7·71 cents. The Receipts at the U. S. Ports were 8,000 bales; and below we give the present comparison between this season's total arrivals at the Ports and those for the same time in the two preceding years:—

	1896.	1895.	1894.
Tuesday's Receipts	8,000	14,000	7,000
Three days' do.	20,000	43,000	25,000
Since 1st Sept., 1895	4,944,000	7,526,000	5,570,000

A fair business has been reported in our local Cotton market to-day, the purchases in both directions summing up nearly 6,000 bales, the feeling having been steady, and prices unchanged. Exporters have bought 2,000 bales consisting of 500 Bengal at Rs. 153/53¼; 400 Dhollera, at Rs. 180/90; 300 each of Endoor, at Rs. 176; and Ujein, at Rs. 180; 200 each of Khundwa, at Rs. 183; and Amreli, at Rs. 195; and Dhulia, at Rs. 168; while the Mills have taken 3,950 bales in all, made up of 2,200 Jalna Ginned, at Rs. 186; 1,000 Barsee, at Rs. 195; 300 each of Dhulia, at Rs. 170; and 150 Compta Ginned, at Rs. 202 per candy.

The Receipts of Produce into Bombay yesterday were as follows:—

Cotton	13,323	bales.
Wheat	12,861	cwts.
Linseed	15,814	„
Rapeseed	6,575	„
Gingellyseed	2,006	„
Poppyseed	9,740	„
Groundnuts	2,205	„
Castorseed	6,478	„
Rice	29,874	„

WHEAT has remained steady in tone, with the export business reported upon a small scale, and prices all unchanged.

SEEDS.—With the exception of a further advance of one anna per cwt. in the price of *Linseed* at Rs. 6-13-0 to Rs. 6-15-0 per cwt. there has been no movement in prices in this market, the tone of which keeps steady with prices all unchanged.

FREIGHTS.—There has been rather more business passing in this market to-day, but without any improvement in rates.

EXCHANGE opened weak and demoralized at 1s. 2 1-16d. for Bank Telegraphic and Demand, and at 1s. 2 3-16d. for three months' sight Credits, but a rush to buy, both *bona-fide* and otherwise, having been made, rates receded to 1s. 2 1-32d. for Telegraphic and Demand, and 1s. 2 1-8d. for three months' sight Bills. The Speculators then turned round and began to sell, and rates closed firmer again as follows:—

Bank Bills on Demand	1s. 2 3-32d.	per rupee.
Do. Telegraphic	1s. 2 1-16d.	„
Do. 3 months' sight.	1s. 2 1-8d.	„
Credits 3 do.	1s. 2 5-32d to 3-16d.	„
Franc 3 do.	1·49¼	„

GOVERNMENT PAPER has been steady throughout the day at an advance of 1-8th per cent. on last evening's closing price, 108 1-8 having been quoted to the end both for Cash and this month's account.

SHARES.—No business has been reported to-day, and the prices in our list this evening are all unchanged.

RAJPUTANA-MALWA RAILWAY.

(Includes the Rajputana, Holkar, Sindia, Neemuch, Rewari-Ferozepore and Cawnpore-Achnera State Railways.
Approximate Return of Traffic for week ended 28th March 1896, on 1,673·94 Miles open.

	Coaching Traffic Receipts.	Merchandise and Mineral Traffic Receipts.	Other Earnings [estimated.]	Total Earnings.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Total traffic for the week	1,41,000	2,60,000	4,000	4,05,000
Or per mile of Railway	83	155	3	244
For previous 12 weeks of half-year.	16,59,940	33,89,868	53,603	51,08,411
Total for 13 weeks..	18,03,916	36,49,868	57,603	55,16,411
Comparison. Total for corresponding week of previous year ...	1,74,505	3,21,659	4,999	5,01,163
Per mile of Ry do.	104	192	3	299
Total to corresponding date do.	18,52,387	48,26,904	68,659	67,47,950

Decrease for the week..... Rs. 93,163

B. B. & C. I. RAILWAY.

Approximate Return of Traffic for week ended 28th March 1896, on 461 Miles open.

	Coaching Traffic Receipts.	Merchandise and Mineral Traffic Receipts.	Other Earnings [estimated.]	Total Earnings.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Total traffic for the week	1,26,000	2,93,000	4,000	4,23,000
Or per mile of Railway	273	636	9	918
For previous 12 weeks of half-year.	12,66,887	27,93,312	43,121	41,03,350
Total for 13 weeks...	13,92,887	30,91,312	47,121	45,31,350
Comparison. Total for corresponding week of previous year	97,310	3,35,434	10,272	4,44,016
Per mile of Ry do.	211	730	22	963
Total to corresponding date do.	13,22,074	36,17,629	45,951	44,85,654

Decrease for the week .....Rs. 21,016
Increase to date..... „ 45,696

GODHRA-RUTLAM RAILWAY.

Approximate Return of Traffic for week ended 28th March 1896 on 115·10 Miles open.

	Coaching Traffic Receipts.	Merchandise and Mineral Traffic Receipts.	Other Earnings [estimated.]	Total Earnings.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Total traffic for the week	3,000	24,000	40	27,040
Or per mile of Railway	26	209	....	235
For previous 12 weeks of half-year..	41,496	2,23,965	683	2,65,545
Total for 13 weeks...	44,496	2,47,965	723	2,93,585
Comparison. Total for corresponding week of previous year	3,166	20,923	—113	23,945
Per mile of Ry. do.	27	181	— 1	207
Total to corresponding date do.	37,169	2,32,642	878	2,70,689

Increase for the week ..... Rs. 3,095
Ditto to date ..... „ 22,896

DOMESTIC OCCURRENCES.

[THE CHARGE FOR NOTIFYING A DOMESTIC OCCURRENCE IS TWO RUPEES. THE ANNOUNCEMENT MUST BE AUTHENTICATED.]

OTHER PRESIDENCIES.

DEATHS.

HAMMILL.—April 7, at Jhelum, Denzil Patrick, the beloved infant son of Patrick and Clare Hammill, aged three months and twelve days.

HENDERSON.—April 7, at Palcondah, Vizagapatam District, after a long and painful illness borne with Christian fortitude, Ruth, the loving wife of Henry Henderson, Asst Surgeon, I M S (Retired), and late Supdt of Jail, Parvatipur, aged 42 years, 9 months and 22 days.

TROTMAN.—On Easter Monday, at Cuttack, Clement Newsham Trotman I C S, aged 24, of enteric fever.

The Bombay Gazette

THURSDAY, APRIL 16, 1896.

THE Empire of Great Britain is the common heritage of all her sons, and is not the appanage of the United Kingdom alone. So spoke Mr. Chamberlain at a dinner of the Canada Club, referring with cordial approval to a speech in which a member of the Dominion Parliament gave utterance to the following words:—"The British people are one people, animated by one spirit, and determined to stand together as one man in defence of their common rights and in the maintenance of their common interests. We desire peace before all. We regard war with horror, but we are prepared to accept it with all its consequences, come from what quarter it may, if it be necessary to do so in order to defend the honour and integrity of our own Empire." Other prominent members of the Canadian Legislature expressed the hope that something will be done to profit by the opportunity presented by recent events to bring the Colonies and the Mother Country nearer together. The Colonial Secretary said with emphasis that he shares that hope. But the Imperial Federation League, formed under very favourable auspices by Mr. W. E. Foster in 1883, and since presided over by Mr. E. Stanhope and by Lord Rosebery, was dissolved in 1893 without having even formulated a plan of Imperial Federation. Mr. Chamberlain desires therefore to proceed tentatively, seeking in the first place to establish common interests and common obligations. The greatest of these obligations is Imperial defence, and the greastest of common interests is Imperial trade. Defence being a question of ways and means cannot be provided for until the question of Imperial trade is first dealt with. Imperial unity must be approached on its commercial side, as was the creation of the German Empire, the first step towards which was taken when two States formed between themselves a commercial Zollverein, or customs union. Other States joined and a Council was formed to discuss commercial matters, which were soon found to involve national objects and political interests. The Colonies, from whom the initiative must come, are approaching the subject from the commercial side. In 1894 a Conference at Ottawa passed a resolution in favour of a customs arrangement between Great Britain and her Colonies by which trade within the Empire may be placed on a more favourable footing than that which is carried on with foreign countries. The same Mr. McNeill who spoke of "our own Empire," has just moved a resolution in the Canadian House of Commons, declaring it advisable in the interests of Great Britain and the Colonies that a moderate *ad valorem* duty—independent of any existing duty—should be imposed both by the Colonies and the Mother Country on all imports from foreign countries.

This proposal of course involves the abandonment of the Free Trade policy of Great Britain, and a reversion to the Protective regime. Mr. Chamberlain, however, does not reject it on that score, for he is not "such a pedantic Free Trader, that if a sufficient inducement were offered he would not consider a deviation from its strictest doctrines." His objection to the suggestion or proposal from Canada is that all the advantages would be on the side of the Colonies, and the loss in foreign commerce borne by the United Kingdom. Nevertheless, a proposal of the kind is in the opinion of the Colonial Secretary entitled to respectful consideration, and if it be objected to, an alternative ought to be proposed, or else we ought to say at once that all we have said, all we have done, and all we have thought about Imperial Unity, has been thrown away, and must be abandoned. How fast opinion moves in these days! Had such a proposal been made three years ago in Mr. Chamberlain's hearing, he would have denounced it as rank protection, unworthy of a moment's consideration. And not without reason, seeing that when subjected to analysis the proposal is found to involve some very startling results:—"It would involve in the case of the United Kingdom a most serious disturbance of our trade. It would be a great change in the principles which have for many years past guided our commercial intercourse. It involves the imposition of a duty—it may be a very small one—upon food, and upon raw material, the tendency of which would be to increase the cost of living, and which would of course increase the pressure of the working classes—and there would be a tendency to increase the cost of production, which would put us, of course, in a worse position than we are now in our competition with foreign countries." By this proposal Great Britain would only get "a small, a very small consideration in the shape of a preference, which may be two per cent. or five per cent. in our competition with foreign manufacturers in the Colonial markets." British goods would still have to pay a high, and in some cases even a prohibitive duty before they are passed through the Colonial Custom-houses. Clearly this is not good enough. As Mr. Chamberlain prefers to express it, "In the suggestions which have hitherto been made there is no sufficient *quid pro quo*." An alternative proposal may, however, be based on a paragraph in Lord Ripon's despatch negativing the particular resolution of the Ottawa Conference. The late Colonial Secretary pointed out that an arrangement by which all the existing barriers to free export intercourse between the different parts of the whole Empire would be removed would be in principle free from objection, and, if practicable, would certainly cement the union of the Empire and promote its strength and stability. Lord Ripon assumed that the Colonies would not accept or consider such a proposal as it would interfere with the interests of their revenue, which is largely based on the heavy duties levied on British manufactures. Mr. Chamberlain recognises that difficulty, but thinks that the advantages to the Colonies at an Imperial Zollverein would be so enormous, opening up to their produce the immense markets of the United Kingdom, and so enabling them to rapidly develop their natural resources, that they would give the suggestion a careful consideration. Even while putting this aspect of the proposal with great energy, Mr. Chamberlain admits that it would be impossible to exactly copy the German Zollverein. The British Isles and the Colonies—and India—are not conterminous countries. Great Britain could not admit free of duty wines and spirits, tobacco, tea, and other articles taxed for revenue purposes. He lays down four principles which if accepted would make it the duty of statesmen to endeavour to surmount difficulties of detail. First, that there is a universal desire amongst all the members of the Empire for a closer union between the several branches, and that in their opinion it is desirable—nay, it is essential—for the existence of the Empire as such. Second, that experience has taught us that this closer union can be most hopefully approached in the first instance upon its commercial side. Third, that the suggestions which have hitherto been made have been made in good part, but are not sufficiently favourable to be considered by this country. Fourth, that a true Zollverein for the Empire, with Free Trade established throughout the Empire, although it would involve the imposition of duties as against foreign countries, and would in other respects be a derogation from the principles of Free Trade, and from the practice of the United Kingdom up to the present time, would still be a proper subject for discussion, and might probably lead to satisfactory arrangements if the Colonies, on their part, were willing to consider it.

In other words, to establish an Imperial Zollverein, with a view to eventual Imperial confederation, Mr. Chamberlain, and apparently the present Government, would be prepared to tax foreign imports for protective purposes, to enhance the price of the food of the working classes, and by thus increasing the cost of production add to the acknowledged difficulty of contending against the growing competition of foreign nations. We need not dwell upon the probability, not to say certainty, that foreign Governments would reply to differential duties against their goods by raising their own adverse tariffs to the prohibitive point. The Secretary for the Colonies, as the *Times* observes, throws out the subject for discussion, and not as a cut-and-dried policy. That is true in a sense. But Mr. Chamberlain cannot open a purely academic discussion on such a subject as if he were an irresponsible member of a debating club. He has thrown down a challenge to the Free-Traders, and rejoiced the hearts of the Protectionists, who have of late years made themselves heard, evidently to some purpose. What would be the gain of India in the creation of a British Zollverein? The change would not benefit the tea planters of Assam and the Madras Presidency, for it is expressly stated that produce taxed for revenue purposes in the Home market would not be exempted. On the other hand, British goods would pass the Indian custom-house scatheless, while the foreign competitor would pay a differential duty of two or 5 per cent. British goods would be protected in the Indian market, while Indian cotton, wheat, and seeds would be protected in the Home markets against the raw produce of the United States, the Argentine and Russia. This would probably help exchange, which is just now sadly in need of a tonic.

THE highly interesting lecture, which Surgeon-Lieutenant-Colonel Waters delivered at the Sassoon Institute, on Tuesday evening, was, as Mr. Justice Jardine pronounced it, thoughtful and suggestive. Apart from the wealth of reminiscence and abundance of amusing anecdote with which Dr. Waters overflows, there was much in his remarks that was consoling to the compulsory exile, and more that was indicative of the direction in which Bombay may be extended to best advantage in the future. It is distinctly satisfactory to have it on the authority of so capable an expert that life in Bombay does not tend to relax and enervate the body and narrow mental aptitude and effort. Many people will not agree with him, and will assert that periodical trips home are absolutely essential to keep body and mind vigorous. But this uncomplimentary tradition, Dr. Waters says, does not rest on anything like a solid foundation. "Life in Bombay for Europeans," said Dr. Waters, "does not involve an enhanced expenditure of bodily or mental power, as compared with life at home, but rather the contrary, all that is necessary to secure health and happiness being a due regard to personal hygiene; moderation in all things; a sober and righteous life, shaped something after that exhibited by Sir Bartle Frere and the Rev. Dr. Wilson, and many others like unto these great and good men, being the sure and certain means of attaining the end desirable." Unfortunately, for the value of these examples, however, there are to-day but few Europeans who remember that Sir Bartle Frere was once Governor of Bombay, or ever heard of Dr. Wilson, except as "some old fellow, who was once a missionary or a professor or something." It might have been well had the learned doctor given us more recent examples to emulate; but alas! perhaps he was unable to choose among the many virtuous of to-day any one or two who shine above their fellows to such a degree as to warrant his selecting them as paragons of perfection, living godly, righteous and sober lives, such as all men may safely copy. Whether people are to-day more moral than they were a quarter-of-a-century ago, we imagine they are at least more temperate. Therefore, they are more healthy, and possibly their lives are equally blameless. On the subject of improvements daily being carried out in Bombay, Dr. Waters gave gratuitous approval to the operations of the Municipality. The streets are being widened, and, as the lecturer remarked, a freer perflation of air is becoming possible. As to the tanks he would fill them all—as they are now fertile sources of mischief He would make an exception, however, in the case of the Gowalia tank, presumably because it is a bright spot in the local landscape. A bright green spot he might have said, and we doubt whether the epithet he employed to describe the other tanks is not equally appropriate to the Gowalia tank, which might be, though it is not at present, a very pretty sheet of clear water. Instead of filling it—if it is to remain in its beautiful environment—it might be emptied and denuded of the rank vegetable growth which now gives it the appearance of a huge lodging place of liquid objectionableness. The certificate Dr. Waters gave to the Byculla Club will, no doubt, be duly appreciated. But both the locality in which it stands, and the Hornby Vellard, to which reference was made, are capable of very extensive improvements from a sanitary point of view. The Vellard some day may form the frontage of a long row of dwelling houses, but the Sanitary Engineer will have first grown gray over the locality, and the Love Grove station will be a memory of the past. After that the islands will be studded with bungalows—that is, such of the islands as can be touched by the now dormant railway scheme. The system of ferry boats which Dr. Waters foretells will ply when the naval defence vessels cease to hide away behind Hog Island in the rains, and the monsoon winds can be stored up and utilised for inflating the pneumatic tyres of bicycles and auto-motor cars.

MESSRS. COOK AND SON, the tourist agents, have again, it appears, been engaged to "personally conduct" the Soudan Expedition. The humorous section of the Peace Party found much to make merry over in the idea of the tourist agents' personally-conducted campaign. But Messrs. Cook and Son on the Nile can do what no other firm can do, and the contract with them to carry the troops up the Nile will cost the Egyptian Government far less than the experiment of carrying the troops themselves. Messrs. Cook and Son have, it appears, a fleet of river steamers on the Nile, and have standing transport contracts with both the English and Egyptian Governments. The contract of 1884 was the first time that the War Office entrusted any military task of the kind to a private firm. They had to convey men and stores from Assiout, then the termination of the Upper Egyptian Railway, to Wady Halfa, at the foot of the Second Cataract—a more formidable undertaking than the present. The railway, which formerly only ran as far as Assiout, now extends to Ballianah—a hundred miles further. Messrs. Cook's transports will, therefore, steam from Ballianah to Assouan, at the First Cataract, a distance of between two and three hundred miles, and thence to Wady Halfa. At this spot the expedition practically begins. Twelve years ago, Messrs. Cook and Son carried transport beyond that, and several hundred whale and rowing boats were available. These were taken up to Wady Halfa for the Government, and when the period of their usefulness ended, they were destroyed. For transportation on the river beyond Wady Halfa no arrangement with Messrs. Cook and Son has yet been made. As the Nile tourist season is at an end with the beginning of the hot weather the whole of Messrs. Cook and Son's fleet is available for transport, and the proprietors are thus enabled to place them at the service of Government. The requirements of the present expedition, however, are not nearly so extensive as those of the expedition of twelve years ago.

MR. G. A. GRIERSON, C.I.E., the well-known Collector of Howrah, in Bengal, with the encouragement of the Government of India and the Royal Asiatic Society of Calcutta, has undertaken a work of considerable interest and importance in which Bombay is concerned, *viz.*, a survey of the vernacular languages of Northern, Central, and Western India. This is intended to be preliminary to a fuller linguistic survey which may be arranged for later on if the preliminary survey is successful. The idea is in the first place to compile a catalogue of the name of every language and dialect spoken in India. It will surprise most people, we imagine, to hear that this is so little determined that some estimate the number at 150 and others at 250. The next thing will be to obtain specimens of each language or dialect in the shape of a translation of some one fable or other piece of English suitable for the purpose, and finally there will be the classification of the languages according to their affinities and characteristics. All District and Political Officers are to be enlisted in the service, and the collection of rare dialects and specimens of the remoter offshoots of Babel will now diversify the tree plantings and other miscellaneous occupations of the district official.

IT is officially notified that, whereas, owing to the resignation by the Hon. Mr. John Nugent, I. C. S., of his office of temporary Member of the Council of the Presidency of Bombay, there is a vacancy in the said office of Member of Council, and whereas no person provisionally appointed to succeed to the office is present on the spot, his Excellency the Governor in Council is pleased, under the provisions of section 27 of the Indian Councils Act of 1861, to appoint the Hon. Mr. James Knox Spence, I. C. S., to be a temporary Member of the said Council. In pursuance of his appointment, the Hon. Mr. James Knox Spence, took upon himself the execution of his office yesterday afternoon.

A salute of fifteen guns was fired from the saluting battery, at 5 p.m., yesterday, to announce the assumption by the Hon. Mr. Spence of his seat as an Ordinary Member of the Council of the Governor of Bombay.

AT the Bombay Criminal Sessions, yesterday, the Hon. Mr. Justice Strachey and a Special Jury concluded the trial of Rama Sakharam, a young Maratha, who was charged with having, on the 20th January last, committed murder by causing the death of Radhee, a girl about nine years of age, by the administration of arsenic in country sweetmeat. The accused had made a full confession of his guilt before the coroner as well as the committing magistrate, both of which he retracted in the Sessions Court. When required by his lordship to explain to the jury why and how he made the statements to the coroner and the magistr

TELEGRAMS.

[REUTER'S TELEGRAMS.]

APPREHENSION OF ANOTHER RISING IN SOUTH AFRICA.

LONDON, APRIL 15.

News has been received that the Natives in the northern parts of the Transvaal are getting restless, and a rising is apprehended.

PRECAUTIONS AGAINST FOREIGN AGGRESSION.

The *Times*, in an article to-day, urges the necessity of increasing the British garrisons in South Africa in order to keep peace within the borders, and thereby render foreign aggression hopeless.

THE PROSPERITY OF CEYLON.

At the Colonial Institute, yesterday, Lord Loch presiding, Mr. Justice Clarence read a paper reviewing the history of Ceylon and the splendid results obtained by British rule over the island.

He pointed out the great development of trade and the plantation enterprise of the British in the Colony, and said that the principal shortcoming was to be found in the domain of law and justice.

COUNT YAMAGATA.

NEW YORK, APRIL 15.

Count Yamagata arrived here from Japan on his way to Moscow to be present at the Czar's Coronation, and met with an enthusiastic reception.

THE MEETING OF THE TWO EMPERORS.

VIENNA, APRIL 14.

The Emperor William had a cordial meeting here, to-day, with the Emperor Francis Joseph.

THE MATABELE RISING.

LONDON, APRIL 15.

The offer of troops to suppress the rising in Matabeleland, made by Sir Hercules Robinson, has been accepted by the authorities concerned.

TROOPS FOR THE CAPE.

Two hundred men belonging to the Leicestershire Regiment will leave Aldershot for the Cape at the end of May next.

EMPLOYMENT OF BRITISH TROOPS IN THE SOUDAN.

In the House of Commons, last night, Mr. Curzon, replying to a question put by Mr. Labouchere, said that if it were necessary to employ British troops beyond Wady Halfa, the cost of doing so would be a matter for discussion between England and Egypt.

EMPLOYMENT OF INDIAN TROOPS IN THE SOUDAN.

In the House of Commons, Lord George Hamilton, the Secretary of State for India, replying to a question, whether it was the intention of her Majesty's Government to employ troops belonging to India in the Soudan, said that the Government had no reason to suppose that the Egyptian Army was inadequate for the undertaking.

FORT CAVAGNARI.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENTS.)

SIMLA, APRIL 15.

It has been decided by the Government of India, owing to recent demarcations, that the Ghulistan Post on the Samana range shall be hereafter known as Fort Cavagnari, the Mashan Post changing its name to Fort Lockhart.

THE IMPERIAL SERVICE TROOPS.

Major Tate will officiate as Inspector-General of the Imperial Service Troops, when Colonel Melliss proceeds on leave in July.

REMOUNTS FOR INDIAN CAVALRY.

The remounts estimates are considerably above the average. About six hundred walers and twelve hundred country-breds will be purchased by the Remount Department during the ensuing year.

THE BALUCHI-AFGHAN BORDER.

Captain MacMahon has returned to Khelat, and will resume charge of his former appointment shortly.

Delimitation papers and maps have been forwarded to Government for formal approval.

A NEW MAIL SERVICE.

RANGOON, APRIL 15.

The Madras Railway Company propose to establish a fleet of steamers to carry mails between Madras and Rangoon, and details are now being worked out. The Madras and the G. I. P. Companies propose reducing time between Bombay and Madras from 36 to 24 hours, and this, they think, should divert Burma mails from Calcutta. The Government of Madras support the scheme, but it seems unlikely that the British India Company will be ousted from the Madras-Rangoon mail service.

DEATH OF A R. C. BISHOP.

The death is announced, at Singapore, on the 8th instant, of Bishop Gasnier, for many years Roman Catholic Bishop of Malacca.

THE BARODA OPIUM CASE.

BARODA, APRIL 15.

Captain C. A. Brown, Railway and Cantonment Magistrate, was busy the whole day recording the Assistant Collector, Mr. Rustom's evidence in the case against Manekial, the Gaekwar's opium farmer's partner and agent.

Mr. Rustom stated that the Baroda farms were given to the highest bidder, and if the farmer was unable to sell the stipulated quantity of opium he had to pay a penalty of Rs. 5 on every unsold pound of opium. To avoid this duty the Baroda farmer surreptitiously sends opium to British territory. Mr. Rustom repeated that the Sooba, Mr. Samarth, declined to give assistance, though ordered by the Dewan. The Sooba actually wrote on Mr. Rustom's application that assistance should be given, yet verbally he declined to do anything. Mr. Rustom further said that the farms in British districts were given to men of approved character.

There being a long list of witnesses for the prosecution and the defence, Captain Brown has decided to hold the court in the mornings and also during the day. The case will be resumed, at 7 o'clock, to-morrow morning.

[REUTER'S TELEGRAMS.]

STEAMER MOVEMENTS.

PLYMOUTH, APRIL 14.

The B. I. S. N. Company's steamer Dunera arrived here this morning.

The P. and O. Company's steamer Sunda arrived here yesterday evening.

TRIESTE, APRIL 15.

The Austrian Lloyd's steamer Imperator, from Bombay (1st instant), arrived here this morning.

SINGAPORE, APRIL 15.

The Florio Rubattino Company's steamer Bisagno left for Bombay, via Penang, this morning.

COLOMBO, APRIL 15.

The Orient Line steamer Austral, from Australia, arrived.

The Bombay-Japan Line steamer Tosa Maru left Colombo, for Bombay, yesterday.

COMMERCIAL AND FINANCIAL NEWS.

LONDON, APRIL 14.

The Liverpool Cotton Market closed firm. Surats quiet.

Good Dhollera	3½
The Manchester market has been quiet but steady.	
2½ per cent. Consols	110 5-8
3 per cent. Rentes	101¼
4½ per cent. Sterling Loan	120
3½ per cent. Rupee Paper	63⅜
Bar Silver	30 13-16

THE ASCENT INTO PARADISE.

TO SIMLA BY MOONLIGHT.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

SIMLA, APRIL 10.

On the morning of the second day—of course, it depends on where you come from, but the second day from Howrah station—a blue line wavers across the horizon, if you look out of the right hand carriage window across the superfluous baggage of the unnecessary other person. And you continue to look out of the right hand window because that which is far is always that which is desired, although the spreading levels around Kalka are pleasant enough. The other person got in at Umballa; she has a complexion that suggests what the subdued crispness coming in at the left hand window must have been a month or two ago. She has a look of great alertness as well as the bloom, and a sola topee which sits lightly and becomingly, and a well-cut cotton blouse, which has gone many times to the dhobie, and a pleasingly shabby serge skirt and brown leather shoes, neat as anything. Military in every detail, even if she hadn't said good-bye to a man in khaki-and-buttons and a twisted moustache, and to four several dogs on the platform at Umballa, military of course, and I think she will write to him every day. Meanwhile it is a question which will be really the most economical, buying a second hand rickshaw outright for one hundred odd rupees, or hiring one in the bazar at eight annas a day, thus meditating she too contemplates. The blue line across the horizon, and her sola topee blots it from my view. However, on the other side there are the pale sands of a river-bed and a bare-branched tree in flower that looks as if five hundred white and purple butterflies had settled on its leafless twigs against an opal sky. They fainted, those butterflies, under the sun of Bengal a good calendar month ago. It is pleasant to find them still poised in the Punjab.

And thus to Kalka, where ladies and gentlemen of the Plains, dusty and uncertain-tempered, are making violently ungrammatical efforts to identify their baggage. Tongas wait, tilted forward in that unsatisfactory horseless way they have until the unhappy traveller, seated on the slanting edge of despair, reaches the actual *point de partir*. Dandies also wait, all their length along the ground, but only one or two; the dandy is not a popular mode of ascension. So does a battered tikka gharry, once brown, now a symphony; it belongs to the "hotel." Waiting also and profane about it, are a green parrot in a cage, a company of critical Atkinses, innumerable dogs. The spectacle of so much delay reminds me that I, too, must wait, until three next morning, so many more provident people have taken tongas before me; and with a last glance at the other person making a business-like disposition in her tonga of three cabin trunks, two portmanteaux and a Chinese basket, I take my place in the venerable tikka gharry, and am tremblingly conveyed to the hotel.

There is an interval of soap and water, of packing and re-packing, of the springless solace of a charpoy, —spring-beds are the luxuries of Presidency towns— and then a bamboo chair in the verandah and the all-surrounding quiet of the hills, even there at the foot of them, with a vagrant bee buzzing through it and a solitary rose-bush flowering in it. One does not even think; after thirty-six hours of train it is Nirvana. The vague brown personalities that come and go are subordinated to the uses of a spectacle, with the sound, now and then, of a voice or a footfall to give it reality.

If you start at 3 a.m., the khansama covenants to arouse you at half-past two. The mosquitos do it long before then. There are no punkahs; there never were any mosquito nets any more than any sheets or any pillow cases. The ascent into Paradise, as we know, is not made too easy, and the wayside places have no linen-presses. Even in Simla, as a rule, it is unwise to expect anything but the bare and unyielding mattress—but I anticipate. Slumber is sound at the foot of the Himalayas and no khansama wakes you at half-past two. You are rather glad of a real grievance, your sense of injury at having to get up at all so poignantly pervades you. On the contrary, you wake the khansama with a demand for tea and bread and butter, eggs forbye, for never has any enterprise appeared to require a more substantial foundation than this one. And in the course of time these things appear, mumbling and clattering, while you watch their advent from the darkness of the verandah, "admir'owin the world is made." It is not a plain tonga into which the baggage is being strapped and tied; it is a phaeton-tonga. Not a phaeton pure, that is a barouche in effect, and costs fifty rupees. This compromise you get at the same tariff as the ordinary tonga—twenty-five. It has a hooded seat behind the driver, and to ensconce yourself you climb with what elegance you may, over his. You face the horses, you can lean back and find forgetfulness without also discovering yourself in the road. Furthermore, the broad back of the driver interposes between you and the dust, and the filings from the tonga-bar. I don't know why phaeton-tongas are no more popular For my part I was unaware up to that moment of their existence. The feature of the ordinary tonga is that its occupant must defy the law of gravity the whole way up. The phaeton-tonga circumvents it for him.

As a matter of fact we do not get off until half-past three; and then we leave a sahib incoherently excited in pyjamas, exploring prostrate forms on the verandah with his foot in search of his own particular betrayer. His Hindustani in the dark has a horrid sound, but the thought is comforting that I shall not get his dust. Also the wrath of Rai Dowlat Ram Bahadur will fall upon his shoulders more appropriately than upon mine.

Thus I reflect as we clank out of Kalka, and the long climb begins in the silence without a lash, without a word. There is a moon; she hesitates over a ridge quite near by, and picks out the trees on the top of it, and throws a tattered sheet of whiteness across the road. A long dip, gravely solitary, and then slow forms and wheels begin to shadow out of the uncertainty ahead; and Gurdar Singh's horn would seem to disquiet the world. As we pass, a white ox defines his dignified head and his advancing shoulder, gazing with reproachful look of comprehension; and then it occurs to me that by grace of the moon I am climbing early Aryan hills. That was a Government animal, but in this light all his official appurtenances are invisible, and he walks as he walked two thousand years ago, with the slow-turning wheels behind him now as then. And now as then he lifts his meditative head to the coming circumstance, the aristocrat of India.

It is something, I observe, to be a driver of tongas on the Kalka-Simla road—everybody salaams to Gurdar Singh. He is indeed an impressive person, with his big black beard and broad khaki hack, over which, in this light, an irregular mass of blue puggri rises dimly. When he makes a joke the syce of the moment laughs in a way that reminds me of some Under-Secretaries He has only to raise his right arm and the horses understand. He looks, from the rear, as if he had traditions. I fancy, somehow, he has once driven a Viceroy. But it seems more self-respectful not to ask.

I am resolved to watch for the dawn, yet presently my eyes open to a wide and desolate steely light which is unexpected, and yet which obviously brings comfort to Gurdar Singh, whose remarks, a while back, to a camel sleeping across the road like a battered trunk and a bundle of harness, would not bear translation. It is daylight, and presently nine o'clock, and there is a question of breakfast at Solon. I observe from the book that a Member of Council is "quite satisfied" with the breakfast at Solon, and am rebuked, though I cannot help wondering what satisfied him.

And after that only the ordinary journey to Simla past the grimacing monkey chained to his stone halfway. "And will the monkey give water to-day?" enquires Gurdar Singh to the convulsion of the syces—up to where the first rhododendron hangs out its flag, and so within the gates.

NEWS OF THE DAY.

The 24th Punjab Infantry, the 45th Sikhs, and the Relief Personal of No. 24 Field Hospital arrived at South Malakand on Friday last.

It has been decided to replace the donkey transport now with the Chitral garrison by mules. The animals will be sent during the ensuing relief.

Mr. J. Frizelle has been appointed Senior Judge of the Punjab Chief Court during the absence on leave of Mr. C. A. Roe; Mr. W. O. Clark, as already announced, officiating on the Bench.

Remittances to the Home Treasury from the 1st of April to the 4th amounted to £271,800, leaving a balance to be remitted to 31st March, 1897, of £16,328,200.

Cholera has broken out in Bangkok. A number of deaths have occurred. Several Natives employed at the Bombay-Burma Trading Corporation have succumbed to the disease.

The Survey of Ootacamund within Municipal limits, which was commenced in August last, is nearly completed, and it is expected that the Survey staff will now be sent on to Coonoor to survey that town.

Bengal opium sale proceeds so far this month have exceeded the Budget estimate by Rs. 2,65,000. The figures are: Budget estimate Rs. 42,25,000; actual sale Rs. 44,90,000. An even greater increase is noted in Bombay, where the estimate was Rs. 10,00,000, and the actual proceeds reached Rs. 15,85,675.

A telegram from Colombo informs us that Li Hung Chang, the Chinese Viceroy, arrived there on Sunday morning, and was received with a salute of 19 guns and a guard-of-honour on landing, when he drove round the city. He sailed the same night and will tranship at Alexandria for Odessa. After the Czar's coronation he proceeds round the world, his itinerary including visits to Berlin, Essen, the Hague, Brussels, Paris, and London. About the end of July he goes to New York, Washington, and Chicago, and thence by Vancouver to Shanghai. His whole journey will occupy eight months, and he is due back in Pekin by the end of November.

At a Committee Meeting of the Bengal Branch of the Countess of Dufferin's Fund, which was held at Belvedere last Friday, Mr. Gayer was appointed temporarily to the dual post of Honorary Secretary and Treasurer; it was also agreed to take over the management of the Lady Elliott Hostel which is now ready to open. There are 36 pupils waiting to enter; the full accommodation is for 48. A letter was read from Rajah Rameshwar Singh Bahadur, brother of the Maharaja of Darbhanga, stating that he wished to give Rs. 50,000 as a donation to the Bengal Branch of the Countess of Dufferin's Fund. If a few more would follow the example of this liberal-minded gentleman, the Bengal Branch would soon be in a position to support itself.

In February 40,490 ounces of gold were imported into India as against 39,997 ounces of gold exported, giving an import surplus of 493 ounces. Their value in rupees is respectively, imports, Rs. 28,84,193; exports, Rs. 26,42,608; surplus imports, Rs.2,41,585. The difference between silver imports and exports is much greater. There were 1,990,213 ounces of silver imported as against 23,267 exported, giving a net increase in imports of 1,966,946 ounces, or of Rs. 47,49,016. To the end of the month of February in the official year 1895-96 there was an increase in the total net imports over exports of both gold and silver to the value of Rs. 6,96,66,541. During February the total value of coins and bullion received in the Calcutta and Bombay mints was Rs.10,33,234 and the total value coined and examined was Rs. 7,42,010.

A curious story obtained currency in Calcutta last week. It was published abroad that a Superintendent of the local police had received a typewritten letter by the English mail giving particulars of the murder of an officer of the 92nd Highlanders in South Africa in 1877. The murder was said to have been committed by a Private Willis of the same regiment, who had secured fifteen million dollars by the crime. The author of the letter has evidently been trying to hoax the police. The 92nd were in India in 1877 and no officer of the regiment disappeared in that year or afterwards. The number of "millions of dollars" is alone sufficient to show that some very stupid person has written the letter. Private Willis was described as still being at large, and he is likely to remain so if he ever existed in the flesh.

The Governor of Madras and Lady Havelock attended by Lord Herbert Scott, A.-D.-C., arrived at Ootacamund on Monday. Their Excellencies received a very warm welcome. The Governor, replying to addresses presented by the Municipality and the planters, said he would be indeed happy if his experience gained in administering other colonies would be useful to the planting industry and to Ootacamund. The Governor also referred feelingly to the fact that he had resided forty years ago in childhood in Ootacamund. The Nilgiri Volunteer guards furnished the guard-of-honour. General Mansfield Clarke, Generals Simpson, Jennings, and the Hon'ble J. D. Rees were among those present. The other members of Government have not yet arrived.

A farewell dinner was given at the United Service Club, Lucknow, on Saturday to Mr. Logan, the popular Agent of the Bank of Bengal there, on the occasion of his departure for England. There were twenty-two present, including the guest, but owing to indisposition the Deputy Commissioner and several others were unavoidably absent. The dinner was all that could be desired, and the Commissioner, Mr. Mackintosh, who presided, made an excellent speech in proposing the health of the guest of the evening, to which Mr. Logan felicitously replied, and in turn elicited a capital speech from Mr. Paliologus. The party separated at a late hour with heartiest wishes for Mr. Logan's safe return to the old country.

The lax supervision exercised over building operations in Ootacamund has at last been brought home to the local Municipal Council, and at their last meeting the Councillors resolved on the publication of a Notification informing the public that persons who build houses without obtaining permission will in future be prosecuted. Better late than never is the only possible comment on this.

The next session of the Bengal Provincial Conference will assemble at Krishnagar during the *Pooja* vacation in October, Mr. Monomohun Ghose will probably preside.

Apparently, says a correspondent, a fresh band of dacoits have appeared in Motihari, as crimes of violence show no signs of decreasing yet.

Lieutenant Greenhill-Gardyne, Gordon Highlanders, is appointed to the Personal Staff of his Excellency the Viceroy as Extra Aide-de-Camp.

On March 19th Lord Salisbury, at the Constitutional Club, presented to Captain Middleton, the chief Conservative agent, a testimonial which had been subscribed by members of the party, consisting of a cheque for £10,000 and an album containing the names of the subscribers, about 4,000 in number. In making the presentation, Lord Salisbury observed that party organisation, in its present form, was a necessary condition of the new state of things implied in the development of popular self-government. The great problem, especially for the Conservative party, was to keep the eyes of the electorate fastened upon the important questions which are vital to the institutions of the country, and that could only be effected by a powerful, well-conducted, and patriotic organisation. The duties which were imposed upon the organiser demanded great qualities, and Captain Middleton had shown those qualities in a very high degree, as was demonstrated by the results of the last political campaign. Captain Middleton suitably acknowledged the presentation.

Huts are being erected at Suez for Indian troops in case an Indian Contingent should be required for the Soudan.

LECTURE ON THE MOON.

In connection with the National Indian Association, it has been arranged to give lectures. The first was given at the Native Ladies' Club, a fortnight ago, by Miss Ellen Stone, who took an honors degree at Cambridge, the subject being "The Art System of Education." The second lecture was given on last Tuesday (14th inst.), at Mrs. Budrudin Tyabji's, by Miss Benson, M.D., who chose the Moon for her subject. There were present, amongst others, the following ladies: Mrs. and Miss Gostling, Miss Cursetji, Mrs. Abdulla Dharamsi, Mrs. Noor Mohammed J. Peerbhoy, Mrs. and Miss Hassan Ali, Mrs. Rustom Cama, Mrs. Keay, Miss Abbott, Miss Ellen Stone, Miss Kimmins, Mrs. Budrudin Tyabji, Mrs. Abbas B. Tyabji, Mrs. Lukhmani, Miss Yamsuta Tyabji, Miss Halima Tyabji, and Mrs I. Bhaisett.

Miss Benson rose and said: It is impossible to talk about the moon without beginning with the sun and the earth. First, remember that the sun, earth and moon are all round like balls; and all move at a tremendous rate, each in its proper line and direction. The earth and the moon are comparatively small and near together; the sun is very large and a long way off. If the moon were one inch across, the earth would be 4 inches in diameter, and 5 feet away, while the sun would be 36 feet across and 1¼ mile away from the earth. Once in very remote ages in the past, all three were glowing hot, on fire, giving out bright light. Smaller things cool down more quickly than larger, which retain their heat longer. So the earth and moon are now mostly cold and dead, but the sun is burning yet, the centre of the earth being still very hot. The moon is one-fourth the width (or diameter) of the earth—so that the earth's face, if we could see it in the sky beside the moon, would be 12 times as large as the moon's, but the bulk of the earth is 50 times that of the moon; while the stuff that the earth is made of is so much heavier than that which makes the moon, that 81 moons would have to be heaped together to weigh down the earth. Now, let us go to the moon and see what we find when we get there. First, because the moon is so much smaller and lighter, everything on it is so, too—and consequently a man could easily jump 4 or 5 times his own height there and easily lift what would weigh half-a-ton on earth, or 40 maunds. Next, there is no air on the moon—no sky, no mists or clouds, no wind—no blue distance or half-lights—no beautiful sunrises and sunsets—stars are as bright by day as by night, and all in an inky black "sky"—more stars appear, and seem all far brighter than here. The "air," or rather space about the moon, would be colder than we can ever have it on earth, while the moon's surface would be burning hot. The scenery, too, is strange—No water whatsoever, no human, animal or plant life, no towns or roads but rugged bare rocks and clefts. Many old volcanoes, measuring from 70 down to 6 miles across. Steep ridges of precipitous mountains, etc. I need not say that even if we could get there, we could not continue to live there, but if we did, we should find curious arrangements of time. There is only one day and night in the space of time we call a month, in which we have 29½ days and nights. The year is a little shorter than ours, lasting 346¼ of our days, or 12 moon's days. So each season, spring, summer, &c., lasts nearly 3 days. There is not much difference between them. I ought to have said that the above description of the moon applies only to one side. Our earth is much the same all the world round, land and sea, seasons, &c. But if we travel round the moon we shall find some extraordinary differences. I can only tell you one difference, because we have never seen the other side of the moon, even through telescopes. It is therefore plain that if you go to the other side of the moon you will not see the earth. One particular side of the moon is always turned towards us. From that side you will always see the earth in the "sky," and always in the same place, not rising or setting; as big as 12 moons—standing still and going through all the phases like our moon. During the moon's long night of 12 days as measured on earth, she (the earth) gradually grows full. Then she is very beautiful; the atmosphere around her gives her a very bright white rim all round; clouds fly over her; her surface is tinted with colours due to land and sea, etc. As she wanes the white rim still remains, and a patch of shadow appears within it and gradually increases as the long night passes. At last the sun rises—I cannot attempt to describe his glories,—gorgeous flames and rings of orange and purple, pink and green, flashing and streaming around him. When the sun is just over the earth, which you must remember never sets, then the earth is like the new moon, but she can always be seen because of that strange white rim all round her. To come back to Earth again—and remembering that all our light and all the moon's light is derived from the sun, let us consider how the phases of the moon are brought about—I mean the change from new moon through quarter, half, etc., to full moon, and so on to new moon again. These are due to the moon of its own motion passing all round the earth in one month. When she is on the same side of the earth as the sun is! (remember that the sun is 1,500 times as far off as the moon), then we cannot see the side that the sun shines on, but we only see the dark side; as the moon moves on we begin to see part of the bright side; when she gets exactly opposite to the sun, then we are on the same side of her as the sun, and we see her all bright. Now, when we are on the same side of the moon as the sun is it may happen that we, *i.e.* the earth, gets between the sun and the moon, and as the earth is opaque the light cannot reach the moon just when she ought to be full. This is an eclipse. You can eclipse your own face similarly by holding your hand between the lamp and your face.

The latter part of the lecture was mainly a demonstration by means of a small crrery, in which much interest was shown by the ladies present. After the delivery of the lecture in English, Miss Cursetji kindly translated it into Guzerati for the benefit of those who could not follow in English.

Ices and refreshments were provided by the kind hospitality of Mrs. Budrudin Tyabji, and the company dispersed after a pleasant stroll in the gardens of Somerset House.

MILITARY NEWS.

Captain Stewart, R.E., is transferred from Allahabad to the charge of the Agra Division, Military Works, vice Captain Gibbon, on leave.

Surgeon-Lieutenant G. Lamb has been appointed to officiate in medical charge of the 24th Punjab Infantry, vice Surgeon-Lieutenant Stevens, appointed to assist Dr. Haffkine in experiment of cholera inoculation.

Colonel Prickett, A.-A.-G., Oudh District, proceeds to England shortly on six months' leave. Major Dick Cunninghame will probably officiate as A. A.-G., during Colonel Prickett's absence. The following appointments have been made:—1-1st Gurkha Rifles.—Lieutenant W. C. Henderson, Wing Officer, to be Quarter-master. 29th Madras Infantry.—Lieutenant W. B. Staunton, Wing Officer, to be Adjutant. 1st Bombay Lancers.—Lieutenant L. N. Beatty, Squadron Officer, to be Squadron Commander, sub, pro-tem. Lieutenant A. H. Bridges, 16th Bombay Infantry, has been appointed Assistant Commandant of the North Lushai Military Police Battalion. The following Royal Engineer Officers have been placed under orders for duty in India:—2nd-Lieutenants F. B. Tillard, B. W. Mainprise, C. J. Clarke, G. J. W. Smyth, E. W. S. Mahon, and R. E. D. Goldingham.

Among the victims to cholera last month in Calcutta was Rai Bahadur Woomar Charan Mukerji, Registrar of the Financial Department. He died very suddenly a day or two before the offices were about to close, preparatory to the move to Simla. His career was one which shows how a native can rise by sheer merit from the position of a humble clerk to a high position in the service. Woomar Charan joined the Department on Rs. 25 per month in 1859 and passed through all the grades until he was appointed Registrar on Rs. 700 early in 1890. He was given the title of Rai Bahadur last year in recognition of his services. An office order has been issued bearing testimony to his sterling merit and good work, and all who came in contact with him must further have recognised in him a native gentleman of the old school, courteous in manner and of that kindly disposition which secured him a host of friends among his European superiors. He was one of those good servants of the Government in whom unlimited trust could be placed

PROPOSED SEPARATION OF CIVIL AND MILITARY MEDICAL SERVICE.

Last evening, the Hon. Mr. Pherozeshah M. Mehta, C.I.E., presided at a public meeting, called under the auspices of the Bombay Presidency Association, at the Gaiety Theatre. A few professional gentlemen and members of the Association, and several leading citizens were accommodated on the platform, while the auditorium and the gallery were partly taken possession of by the students from schools and colleges.

In opening the proceedings, the chairman, in the course of a brief but eloquent speech, remarked that the Association had thougbt it desirable to call the meeting, because the subject was one which affected the vital interests of the public at large, and the interests of medical research, medical education, medical relief, and of sanitation generally throughout the whole of the country. They were all aware how their Medical Colleges were manned. One would imagine that the principal colleges of the country had specialists employed to instruct students in all the special branches of the medical science, but instead of such specialists they found that the colleges were manned by professors, who were sent there because they could be at times spared from army requirements. They were not specialists in any sense, but they were said to be capable of performing any wonderful feat which they might be asked to perform. (Laughter.) At one time one of those professors who was deemed qualified to teach anatomy was considered fit at another moment to occupy the chair for chemistry or physiology or in fact every possible branch of medical science, and that was the system under which their medical education was carried on. It was a monstrous anomaly that members of the subordinate civil service occupying the position of Assistant Surgeons in the Presidency, who were considered the best products of their highest medical education, should begin with a salary of Rs. 100 rising to an unprecedented amount of Rs. 200 a month. (Laughter and applause.) It was true that they were entitled to pension after a certain number of years, but it was invariably found that very little of life remained to enable them to enjoy their pension. (Laughter.) The system at present in vogue was simply a scandal, and he hoped that at no distant day they would be able by dint of constant agitation to remove that scandal. (Loud applause.)

Dr. Bahadurji proposed—(a) That the existing medical administration of India, with its two Military Medical Services, for one of which all higher Civil appointments in the departments of education, sanitation and civil medical relief are exclusively reserved, is indefensible in principle, harmful in its operation, and inordinately costly; and that this meeting considers that a radical reform in the present system, by a complete separation of Civil and Military Service, is urgently demanded in the interests of medical science, medical education, and the cause of sanitation generally in this country; and (b) that the meeting further places on record its strong opinion that the time has now come when a decided improvement should be introduced into the position, emoluments, and prospects of that portion of the Civil Medical Service which comprises the Assistant Surgeons and the Hospital Assistant. In support of his proposition, Dr. Bahadurji referred to what had been said by the late Sir Erskine Perry, who presided at the first distribution of prizes at the Grant Medical College, regarding the introduction and the fostering of medical education in Bombay. The system, he said, at present in vogue in connection with the Medical Service was indefensible in principle and subversive of all the traditions of the profession. The speaker than alluded to what men like Mr. Earnest Hart and other medical gentlemen of high eminence thought about the Indian Medical Service, and proceeded to remark that the system had besides being very expensive proved injurious to the best interests of medical science and profession and the sanitation of the country. In concluding his speech he put it to the members of the Service, who wished to retain their lien on some of the fat appointments in the Service, whether it was not in the interest of the profession, and the country at large that they should join them in doing away with the utterly indefensible system of reserve, and to effect the reform of having one Military Medical Service and to have the Civil Medical Service recruited from members of the profession, whether they came from England or belonged to India. (Applause.)

The Hon. Mr. Daji Abaji Khare, in seconding the proposition, said that the present system necessarily narrowed the choice of Government, and there was in fact no competition worthy of its name, and it gave no impetus to anybody who was not in the Service.

Dr. Bhalchandra Krishna, in supporting the proposition, said that the question for their consideration lay in a nutshell, and it was whether they were prepared to allow the present state of affairs to continue any longer, and he thought that he was expressing the feelings and views of the general public and the profession that the time had now come, when they should continue to agitate until the proposed reform was effected. He had high respect for the present staff of professors, but they were not concerned with men, but with principles (Applause.)

Dr. Atmaram Pandurang said that the system in question did not exist in any civilized country in the world. It showed that men outside the Service were fit for nothing, whereas those belonging to the Service were fit for everything. (Laughter and applause.)

The proposition was then put to the vote and carried.

The Hon. Mr. A. M. Dharmsi moved that a committee of the undermentioned gentlemen be appointed and authorised to draft memorials in terms of the above resolution, and that such memorials be forwarded to the proper authorities under the signature of the Chairman of the Meeting:—The Chairman, Mr. N. V. Gokhle, Mr. F. M. Kanga, Dr. S. W. Kane, Dr. Bhalchandra K. Bhatvadekar. The Hon. A. M. Dharamsi, and Mr. D. E. Wacha. He said that a little consideration showed him that the public at large were equally, if not more, interested in the question as the medical profession. The whole system of medical administration of this country was faulty, and it need a radical reform. Now that the public mind was awakened to the faulty system, which provided for comfortable berths for military officers in the Service, they must agitate and continue to agitate until they accomplished their object. (Applause.)

Mr. N. M. Samarth said that the reform they were agitating for was based on the solid foundation of justice and equity. They were fighting for the recognition of merit wherever found, irrespective of caste, creed, or colour.

Dr. M. G. Deshmukh thought this to be a very opportune time to approach the Secretary of State for India, inasmuch as they had the support of such authorities as the "British Medical Journal" and the British Medical Association.

Mr. S. H. Hodiwalla said that members of the subordinate native medical service received the magnificent sum of Rs. 15 a month, which amount he saw the other day in the advertisement columns of a morning paper was proposed to be given by the advertiser to a cook. (Laughter.)

The proposition was then put to the vote and carried.

The chairman said that the next proposition would be submitted by Dr. J. C. Lisboa, who had unfortunately lost his voice, and who proposed to reserve his remarks for some future occasion. (Loud laughter and applause.) The chairman then holding a paper in his hand said that it was Dr. Lisboa's speech, which might be taken as read. (Renewed laughter.)

The chairman then read the next proposition, which stood in the name of Dr. Lisboa and which was as follows:—That this meeting elects Dr. K. N. Bahadurji, M. D. (London), as its delegate to England to give evidence before the Royal Commission on Indian Expenditure, and to represent the views of this meeting before the British public.

Mr. N. E. Gokhle, in seconding the proposition, paid a great compliment to Dr. Bahadurji for conducting the agitation, and said that the question having already been discussed on the platforms of the National and Provincial Congresses should, if necessary, be taken to the House of Commons.

Dewan Bahadur Manibhai Jashbhai having supported the proposition, it was put to the vote and carried.

Dr. Bahadurji here rose and begged that he might be allowed to supplement his remarks already made to the meeting. He said that in agitating the question he had only done his duty.

On the motion of Mr. D. E. Wacha, a vote of thanks was passed to the chairman, and the proceedings terminated at about 7-15 p.m.

THE QUALITATIVE SIDE OF INDIAN EDUCATION.

In the latter part of his address before the Bombay Graduates' Association, of which we gave a summary on Monday, Professor Gokhale spoke at some length on the quality of the education now given in India. In the course of his remarks he said:—

Gentlemen, the observations, which I have so far ventured to make, refer to what may be called the quantitative side of the question. But there is another aspect of it, which is scarcely less important—I mean the qualitative aspect. We see how very little of education we really have in the country; but is the article, that we get, at any rate of the right sort? The question has latterly received a good deal of attention, and the literature on the subject includes the very notable contributions of Dr. Bhandarkar and Mr. Justice Ranade, and another recent contribution, much more elaborate and certainly not less important, by my friend, Mr. Gole, the Principal of my college. I think, gentlemen, there are grave defects in our present educational system, and so long as these defects are not remedied, the results of the system are bound to be of an unsatisfactory and even disappointing character. The principal defect that must strike every one who is conversant with the system and who devotes any thought to the subject is the fearful amount of cram that prevails on all sides of us—from the first vernacular standard to the highest degree examination. And I have no hesitation in saying—I think that, if anything, I am under the mark in making the statement—that more than 90 per cent. of our students pass through the whole of their educational course, placing their main reliance on cramming. In primary schools, in secondary schools, in colleges, it is with them one continuous, ceaseless act of cramming. Slightly altering a familiar quotation, I am say that it is all

Cram, cram, cram, till the eyes grow dim,
Cram, cram, cram till the head begins to swim.

What wonder, if as soon as they finish their educational course, so many of them are seized with an insurmountable, a fatal aversion to studies of every kind! Gentlemen, the evil that I speak of is a great, a real evil, and what is worse, it is steadily on the increase. From the first vernacular standard to any degree examination,—say, the examination for the degree of B. A.—the course extends over a period of 15 years; the primary school course takes four years, the High School course is of seven years and the College course extends over four years more. An average student may take about 18 years to finish the whole of this course—he may fail once or twice in the school, once or twice in the college. Now, if you ask a young man to carry on his head a big load—and cramming is little else—for a period of 18 years continuously, to carry it about with him constantly, wherever he goes, uphill and down dale, is it strange that his growth should be stunted and he bends before his time—becomes an intellectual and moral dwarf? Look at our primary course. Think of its dull, mechanical monotony—the same text-books, the same standards, the same methods of teaching—teachers and pupils, in the graphic words of Mr. Justice Ranade, moving round and round in the same grove—for ever so many years, without expansion, without adaptability, without life. Think of this and then think of the ceaseless effort, for ever going on in the West, to make instruction as interesting to the child as possible—the variety of their reading books, their numerous historical and geographical readers, beautifully illustrated, their constant endeavour to improve and perfect methods of teaching. In this connection, I may remark that I was surprised to read the other day that our Director of Public Instruction was of opinion that no revision of the text-books in use in primary schools was needed. Gentlemen, we all of us have the most unfeigned respect for Mr. Chatfield for his many qualities of the head and the heart, and great weight must naturally attach to his opinions on educational matters. But when he sets his face against the proposal to revise these text books on the ground that they are likely to be considerably sanskritized in the process, he appers to me to illustrate how any kind of change becomes unwelcome even to a person possessing a singularly clear intellect owing to a long course of familiarity with certain fixed ideas. But, gentlemen, speaking of the mechanical, inelastic character of our primary education, I must say that though the Education Department is primarily responsible for these defects, we ourselves are in a great measure also to blame in the matter. How many parents of the children attending primary schools ever trouble themselves with any questions about the character of the education which these children receive? Most of them undoubtedly think that their duty is done when they pay the fees for their children's instruction and supply them with books and writing materials. Again, what are our Municipalities doing in the matter? They enjoy considerable freedom of action in such respects if only they knew how to use it. What is true of primary schools is also, for the most part, true of scondary schools. Here, too, we have the same mechanical methods of teaching, the same listless work on the part of boys, the same want of a living expansive force to suit the studies to the taste of students and make them an object of interest and delight and not a necessary burden. The boys attend school for five or six hours and devote about as many hours to what is known as home preparation, which is only another expression for cramming. How very different from what they do in the great public schools of England, where among other things, a love of out-door games is developed which endures through life and where the foundation is laid of a manly, vigorous type of character! One would expect that things might at any rate improve when a student has completed his High School course and begins his University studies. But even here, the system of examinations, as it is with us, stands in his way and for the most part prevents him from straying beyond the text books appointed. Gentlemen, it must be said that our system of examinations is of a radically vicious character and is responsible for a great part of the disappointing character of the work of our University. That talented and cultured lady—the ornament of two Universities—Miss Cornelia Sorabji—delivered the other day almost delightful address to the students of my college on college life at Oxford and in India. In the course of her remarks, she said that at Oxford examiners prefer a grain of original thought to a sack of cram. I do not know what is there to prevent our examiners from adopting a similar standard. Certainly one cannot conceive anything more harmful to all real studies than our present system, with its marking of each question and its fanciful percentages, especially when the system is worked, as at present, in so mechanical, I had almost said, so unintelligent a manner. Of course, the responsibility for the character of our higher studies does not rest solely with our University as an examining body. The colleges also have to share this responsibility with it to a large extent. But what I mean is that the character of the examinations of the University influences very materially the character of the studies of the young men, who seek success in those examinations. And as though the evil was not already great, publishers are coming forward in numbers to aggravate it. They find obliging authors —I don't know if the authors oblige the publishers, or the publishers oblige the authors, but certain it is that between them they manage to make the situation, already intolerable enough in all conscience, still more intolerable. For instance, I may mention that within the last four or five years, some books

A large number of the members of that body can never see eye to eye with you in such matters, simply because they have no actual connection with the work of education, nor are their children being educated here, so that they have no opportunities for observation and are beyond the baneful effects of the present system. I think, gentlemen, that membership of the Senate should, as a rule, be confined to those who are directly connected with the work of education and to the "alumni" of the University. Of course, outsiders like Sir Raymond West or our present Vice-Chancellor ought to be welcomed to its ranks, but such a departure should be made only in the case of men of acknowledged learning and scholarship.

As regards the large number of English lawyers and high Civil and Military officers of Government who at present find a seat in the Senate almost as a matter of right, but who have no acquaintance with our system of education or the character of our studies, and who have no time to think of such matters—men, who confine themselves generally to the work of voting at elections or attending a stray meeting of the Senate to vote more or less in accordance with racial prejudices, I say such men have no business to be in the Senate. Whatever necessity might have existed at one time for their appointment, the University has now clearly outgrown that necessity, and to my mind their position at present in the Senate appears to be wholly anomalous. Gentlemen, one of the most serious problems which our educated men must face is that of the intellectual decadence which has been going on among us for some time past and which is now plainly discernible on all sides, I know there are those who do not admit the fact of this decadence. A distinguished educationist of this city, Dr. Mackichan, told us about five years ago that he was no believer in this theory about decadence. We might, however, set against his authority the authority of another Englishman, than whom there is no more watchful or sympathetic observer of our progress—Mr. Selby of the Deccan College. Mr. Selby is of opinion that this decadence is a fact, and almost every year he notices a steady deterioration in the calibre of his students. Such a decadence cannot of course be the result of a single cause. I think, however, that no cause can have contributed so much to bring about this result as the system of cramming which has grown so fearfully in recent years, and which threatens to grow still further, unless effective remedies are applied in time. The Sage of Chelsea—one loves to call him by that name in spite of the recent protest of Mr. John Morley—once described cramming as utterly unworthy of an honourable mind. Let our students realize this adequately. I know it is the system that is responsible more than they. But even they can no doubt deal with such matters, when they clearly perceive what an unworthy, unmanly thing it is to cram. Gentlemen, we must all lay the axe at the root of this cramming. It is a noxious tree. Under its shade, no healthy life can thrive. Away with it!

Intimately connected with this question of our educational system is the question of our vernaculars. We all know by this time what is said on either side of the controversy in connection with them, and I have no wish to repeat arguments which have been repeated ten times before. I may, however, tell you that personally I have not got much faith in the setting of a paper in vernacular translation and composition at the several examinations, though I am prepared to support the proposal, merely by way of asserting a principle.

A better plan, I think, will be to allow candidates for the B. A. degree in languages to take up the vernaculars as optional with the classical languages. But the best solution of the whole question is, in my opinion, the creation of a separate vernacular University conferring degrees—of course for a long time to come inferior to the degrees of our present University. English and Sanskrit should be compulsory second languages in the curriculum of such a University. In this way, I think, will all conflict of interests, which stands at present in the way of a due recognition of the vernaculars by our University, be avoided, and the vernaculars receive all the incentive for their development that they need. Our middle class men are sure to take advantage of such a University in large numbers. I think if the United States on this side of India combine for the purpose, the task cannot be too great for them. May we not respectfully look up to H. H. the Maharajah Gaekwar of Baroda to take the lead in this matter? His Highness is already doing so much for the education of his subjects and his interest in the development of the vernaculars is so well and so widely known. The creation of a Vernacular University will be a lasting monument of the enlightenment and the beneficence of his rule. Gentlemen, I fear I have already presumed too much on your indulgence, but there is just one point more on which I will say a word and I will conclde. I think we have a right to call upon Government to do much more than they are doing at present in fulfilment of a sacred obligation. But we must at the same time remember that single-handed, the Government will never be able to accomplish much. The magnitude of the task requires that private charity and private enterprize ought to come forward in a very marked manner to co-operate with Government in the field. All of us, great or small, rich or poor, can do something in the matter. Our Municipalities can institute scholarships to enable young men to proceed to Europe or America to prosecute their studies there. Our wealthier men might emulate the glorious example of Sir Dinshaw Petit and Mr. Tata. Mr. Gavardhadhandas Khatao Makanji and Mr. Jakaria. Other men might lend their support according to their own measure. Leaders like our worthy President can give the cause the invaluable benefit of their guidance. Humbler men might contribute their share by working in the field. Each one of us can do something and spare something for this great cause. I think, in the present circumstances of our country, no subject can call forth such universal, such whole-hearted enthusiasm as Public Education. If anything will ever restore to us our lost glory, it will be this. In the eloquent words of a recent writer, "knowledge is Heaven's light to our steps, and a nation that shuts it out, seals its own doom and cannot stand." Gentlemen, in our present fall we are paying the penalty of our past sins. For these sins, many of our best lives must be sacrificed on the alter of education by way of atonement. At this alter, the nation must kneel for years, many and long, before it can rise purified and regenerated, ennobled and strengthened, and proceed to take its place among the nations of the world.

BOMBAY VOLUNTEER CORPS: A QUESTION OF PRIZES.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "BOMBAY GAZETTE."

SIR,—I will not encroach too much on the space of your columns, but trust you will will publish these few lines as they are of vital interest to those who are concerned in shooting.

The question I wish to have solved is why attendance at parades should count towards shooting prizes. Government are willing to pay the Capitation Grant if a Volunteer puts in a certain number of parades. Why, therefore, should the Philistines who dictate the shooting terms demand the extra pound of flesh, so to speak, from us in extra parades which go towards scoring for a prize. Shooting should be allowed to stand on its own merits, and the prizes should go to the best shots, and not to those who have put in an extra drill. It is a misnomer to mix the two functions of a Volunteer, for man may have business calls that preclude him from attending parade as regularly as Government servants, who in future, under the new Act, will be allowed special leave for attendance at volunteer duty. I ask, therefore, whether shooting prizes will go to the one who has been oftenest at drill or to the best shot. In my humble opinion, the two should be distinct, and drill and shooting prizes given to the respective competitor, and not as now be mixed up in a manner that even Cæsar's oratory could not have been reconciled. I would like this matter settled and some satisfaction given me, as the question is one that keenly affects others of the Rifle Corps besides

AN OLD VOLUNTEER.

THE COLABA LAND AND MILL CO.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "BOMBAY GAZETTE."

SIR,—I hope in the interest of my fellow-shareholders you will have the goodness to allow me a small space in the columns of your valuable journal.

The last dividend on the shares of the above company as declared by the directors shows to what low state the company has fallen. Its sources of profits as compared with the other companies in Bombay are certainly abundant, and it is free from the evils which other companies are groaning under.—I mean the system of paying the agents by a percentage, and yet the company cannot favourably compare with others. The last dividend was Rs. 12 per share of the paid-up capital of Rs. 700! But when I look back into the past years, I see the same sad figures. A pessimist would take a bad view of the concern; but I do not. I think there is a screw loose somewhere, and if the management is re-casted, there is every hope for the shareholders to earn larger dividends. I, therefore, suggest, through the medium of your valuable journal, to my brother shareholders, that at their next meeting they should try and insist upon a proper change in the management. I do not mean to insinuate that there is any malpractice going on, but a change seems necessary.—Yours, &c.,

K. S. BOTTLEWALLA.

VALUABLE DISCOVERY FOR THE HAIR.—If your hair is turning grey or white or falling off, use "The Mexican Hair Renewer, for it will positively restore in every case, Grey or White hair to its Original colour without leaving the disagreeable smell of most "Restorers." It makes the hair charmingly beautiful, as well as promoting the growth of the hair on bald spots, where the glands are not decayed. Ask your Chemists for "The Mexican Hair Renewer, sold by Chemists and Perfumers everywhere at 3s. 6d. a bottle.—Wholesale Depots, 33, Harrington Road, London, England.

MUNICIPAL STANDING COMMITTEE.

AT the usual weekly meeting of the Standing Committee of the Municipal Corporation, held yesterday afternoon, Dr. Bhalchandra Krishna presided, and there were also present: Messrs. R. H. Vincent, T. W. Cuffe, S. Rebsch, Hurkisondas Narotumdas, Ibrahim Rahimtulla, Fazulbhoy Visram, K. N. Kabraji, K. M. Shroff, the Hon. Mr. Abdulla M. Dharamsi, Dr. N. N. Katrak, and Dr. A. G. Viegas.

SALE OF GOVERNMENT PAPER.

The Commissioner reported that a further lot of 3½ per cent. Government paper for Rs. 50,000 belonging to the surplus cash balance account was sold on the 30th ultimo at Rs. 107-10-0 against the cost price of Rs. 105-5-0 per cent.

CONVERSION OF OIL-LAMPS INTO GAS ONES.

The Commissioner wrote to the Committee stating some of the roads in the city were at present lighted with kerosine oil-lamps, and requesting sanction to convert sixty-seven such lamps in several streets into incandescent gas lamps. The Committee recommended the Corporation to sanction the necessary cost for the proposed conversion.

THE TENDER FOR SUPPLY OF IRON CASTINGS.

The Committee discussed a letter from the Commissioner on the subject of the supply of iron castings during 1896-97. The Commissioner stated that Messrs. Sorabji Shapurji & Co., the present contractors, had given entire satisfaction, and though theirs was the second lowest tender, the excess being only Rs. 12, yet he recommended the Committee to accept it.

Accordingly, the Hon. Mr. Dharamsi proposed that Messrs. Sorabji Shapurji & Co.'s tender be accepted.

Mr. Fazulbhoy Visram seconded.

Dr. Viegas remarked that they invited tenders with the object of encouraging competition, and on principle the lowest tender must be accepted. He accordingly moved an amendment to that effect, Mr. Ibrahim Rahimtulla seconded the amendment.

Mr. Snow, the Municipal Commissioner, pointed out that it was a most dangerous and extremely undesirable practice to always accept the lowest tender.

On a division, the amendment was rejected, and the original proposal was carried by 8 votes to 3.

MAJOR TULLOCH'S CLAIM.

The next item on the agenda was a request from the Commissioner asking sanction to the purchase of a bill of exchange for 100 guineas payable to Major Tulloch, R.E., as per Corporation's resolution of 13th instant.

Mr. Fazulbhoy enquired if Major Tulloch would accept the amount. He suggested that the committee in the first instance should write to him.

It was eventually agreed that the Commissioner should communicate the Corporation's resolution to Major Tulloch.

After transacting some more business, the Committee adjourned.

PARSEE ANTI-DOWRY ASSOCIATION.

THE annual general meeting of the above Association was held, on Sunday, evening at the Framjee Cowasjee Institute, under the presidency of Khan Bahadur Byramjee Dadabhoy Registrar. Mr. Pallonjee Barjorjee Desai, one of the honorary secretaries of the Association, read the report of the Association for 1893 and 1894, which stated that ten public lectures were delivered under the auspices of the Society during the period under report. These lectures were printed in pamphlet form and freely circulated among the Parsees at the expense of the late Mr. Framjee Dinshaw Petit, president of the Association, and another Parsee gentleman. There were 153 members on the roll, seven of them had become life-members and three patrons, on making a donation of Rs. 100 each. But Dinbai Nusserwanji Petit had contributed towards the fund of the Association Rs. 550, Sir Dinshaw Manockjee Petit, Bart., a Fort Trust Bond of the nominal value of Rs. 500, and Sir Jamsetjee Jeejeebhoy, Bart., Rs. 200. A balance of Rs. 1,718 was now left in the hands of the treasurer. The committee had exposed three cases of educated Parsee younmen asking for thousands from their would-be fathers-in-law in the shape of dowry and refusing to enter into the marriage contract unless and until the consideration money agreed upon was paid. In another case from the Mofussil a Parsee father complained to the committee of a graduate breaking off the marriage contract on the ground of the dowry he expected not having been paid to him. The committee advised the aggrieved father to take legal steps against the graduate promising him pecuniary and other assistance, but he was afraid of coming forward in his own name. The committee regretted Parsee parents having such false shame, and stated that nothing could be done by them if the aggrieved parties themselves chose to remain in the background. The report closed with an expression of regret at the loss sustained by the Association at the death of the late Messrs. Sorabjee Framjee Patell and Framji Dinshawji Petit, two of the zealous supporters of the Association. The report having been adopted, a general committee composed of sixty members was appointed; Mr. K. N. Kabraji being the president, Dastur, Peshotan and Jamaspji, Khan Bahadur Byramji Dadabhoy, Khan Bahadur M. C. Muraban, C. I. E., and Mr. Rustomji N. Byramji Jeejeebhoy (vice-presidents), Mr. Sorabji Edalji Warden (honorary treaurer), and Messrs. Pallonji B. Desai and Rustom B. Paymaster (honorary secretaries), Messrs. Sorabji Kakhusroo Patuck and Jamsetji Dosabhoy Secretary were appointed auditors. Votes of thanks having been voted to the retiring committee and the chairman, the meeting dispersed.

THE NEW INDIAN MEDAL.

THE institution of the Indian medal of 1895 makes the third General Service Indian medal which has been struck. The first one was issued in 1851 for European troops only, to the survivors of the campaigns in India between 1799 and 1826. The ribbon was pale blue. The obverse of the medal bore the head of the Queen, the reverse Victory seated in the foreground, with a trophy of arms under a palm. Incription "To the Army in India." The clasps were 21, including Assaye and the principal actions of the Mahratta war, the first Burmese war and the Nepal war. It would not be at all unfitting if this medal, or at any rate the ribbon, was adopted for the new Indian medal. Between 1826 and the campaigns for which the medal of 1854, commonly though erroneously called the "Frontier medal," was first issued, there were many campaigns in India, but each was rewarded with a special medal. These compaigns were the Kabul war, 1838—42, for which no less than six medals were struck, there being no clasps issued; the Gwalior campaign of 1843 for the battles of Maharajpore and Punniar, for which a bronze and silver star was issued; the 1st Sikh or Sutlej campaign; the war in Sind, and the second Sikh or Punjab campaign. Then came the second Indian medal of 1854, with clasps innumerable. The principal are—Pegu (2nd Burma War), Persia (1856-57) North-West Frontier. Umbeyla, Jawaki, Lushai, Chin-Lushai, Lushai (1889-92), North-East Frontier (Manipur), Burma (1885-87), Burma (1887-89), Burma (1889-92), Bhotan, Sikkim (1888), Nagar, Perak, Hazara (1888), Hazara (1888), Hazara (1891), Samana (1891), Hunza (1891), Waziristan (1894-95). The Waziristan operations of last year constitute the closing chapter of the old medal, unless this opportunity is taken of giving the missing clasp for the extensive aad arduous operations in Burma in the cold weather of 1892-93, to the non-recognition of which we have more than once drawn attention. But the date chosen seems to imply that there is no intention of giving it retrospective effect. This Indian medal, as latterly issued, it is interesting to note, is not much more than half the thickness of the earlier issues, a fact which we make no doubt has been noticed and commented on by the natives of India. Since the institution of the Indian medal of 1854, there have been three special medals for Indian campaigns, viz., the Mutiny, and the medal and star for the last Afghan war. As a contempary remarks: The inauguration of a new Indian medal is a very much more suitable recognition of the Chitral campaign than the issue of a special medal, as was at one time spoken of. When so hard fought a campaign as that of Umbeyla, or one of such importance in its results to the Empire as the last Burma war were rewarded by the Indian medal only, it would have been decidedly incongruous to have given a special one for the little frontier war.

SPAIN AND INDIA.

QUARANTINE AT MADRID.

THE following letter from the Vice-Consul for Spain, Bombay, dated 14th April, is published in a *Bombay Government Gazette* Extraordinary:—

"I have the honour to inform you that, according to a telegram received to-day from my Government, to-day's "Madrid Gazette" will declare arrivals from British as well as Portuguese India as foul on account of cholera."

FOREIGN TELEGRAPHIC SERVICE.

Latest dates of foreign messages, received at Bombay from the United Kingdom during the 24 hours ending at 8 p.m., of the 15th April, 1896.

(Difference in Longitude allowed for.)

Via.	Latest Dates.				Time occupied in transmission.	
	D.	H.	M.		Hours.	Minutes.
Turkey	15	...	21	p.m.	...	17
Teheran	15	3	21	p.m.	...	4
Suez	15	3	6	p.m.	...	4

Time occupied in the transmission of messages to Bombay during the 24 hours ending 8 p.m., of the 15th April, 1896.

	Maximum Time.		Minimum Time.	
	H.	M.	H.	M.
From Calcutta	...	36	...	5
" Karachi	...	8	...	1
" Madras	...	39	...	1

SECOND CRIMINAL SESSIONS.

AT the Bombay Criminal Sessions, yesterday, the trial of the following case was resumed before the Hon. Mr. Justice Strachey and the same Special Jury:—

A GIRL MURDERED BY POISONING.

Rama Sakharam, a young Maratha, was charged with having, on the 20th January last, committed murder by causing the death of Radhee, a girl, by the administration of arsenic in native sweetmeat. The Hon. Mr. Lang, Advocate-General, with Mr. Dadysett, instructed by the Public Prosecutor, appeared for the prosecution; and Mr. Kirkpatrick defended the accused. The undermentioned gentlemen were empannelled upon the

SPECIAL JURY.

Mr. E. H. Elsworthy, foreman.
Mr. Bhimrao Atmaram. Mr. Cowasjee D. Dubash.
Mr. W. H. Sharp. Mr. D. Lindsay.
Mr. J. M. Heyn. Mr. J. P. Kapadia.
Mr. R. J. Tata. Mr. E. R. Khote.

Further evidence was called for the prosecution.

Bhagia Rama stated that, on a Thursday four months ago, he ate pan-soparee with the accused and Appa Gunnoo near a mosque at Valpacady. He then went away, leaving Appa and the accused together.

Shrikisson Sookhdeo, a sweetmeat-seller keeping a shop at Dongree, near the County Jail, said that, on the day before the police came to his shop about three months ago, the accused and another person came to his shop. He sold them two packets of sweetmeats for four annas. One packet contained "pendahs," and the other mixed sweetmeats.

Sakree, widow said she had one son and two daughters. Her sister, Jannee, lived with her with her daughter, Radhee, now deceased. Appa Gunnoo, her nephew, also lived with her. One evening four months ago, Appa returned home with a packet of "pendhas." In answer to Jannee he said he met a fellow-villager, who gave them to him. Jannee distributed the "pendhas" to all, persons in the house, taking her own share. In all, seven persons ate the "pendahs." They were in a broken condition. In a short time, all the seven persons were seized with vomiting and purging all the night. Witness felt very uneasy in her stomach, and felt a burning sensation in her mouth. They were all taken to hospital the following morning, and after treatment returned home. Radhee got worse, was taken back to the hospital, and died there.

Inspector Butfoy said that, in consequence of information received, he went to the Jamsetjee Hospital on the morning of the 17th January last. He went with Appa Gunnoo to a sweetmaker's shop, and took charge of two trays of sweetmeat. The contents were sealed up and sent to the Chemical Analyser.

Hafiz, a police havildar, said he arrested the accused on the 21st January last at Pargham, and brought him to Bombay.

Cross-examined by Mr. Kirkpatrick: Witness arrived in Bombay on the 25th January, and leaving accused in Paydhonie chowkey, went back to Pargham.

Gunnoo Tatia, a witness for the prosecution, was submitted for cross-examination, and in answer to Mr. Kirkpatrick, said that he lived in Bombay at the house of a relative of Appa Gunnoo, where the prisoner had also put up. He accompanied the prisoner to the railway station when he left for Pargham.

This was the case for the prosecution.

In answer to the judge, the accused said he came to Bombay to see his aunt. He knew nothing about his stating to the magistrate that he came with poison given him by Wittoo Dhondoo. He did not purchase any sweetmeats nor give them to anybody.

The Judge: Can you explain, or do you wish to explain, why you said to the magistrate that you came with poison given you by Wittoo?

Prisoner: I don't know anything. I have no explanation to give.

The Judge: You stated before the coroner that you and Appa went to a sweetmeat seller's shop, that you bought some sweetmeat, that you sat near a masjid, etc. Do you wish to explain to the jury why or how you made that statement before the coroner?

Prisoner: I have no explanation to give. I don't know anything about the matter.

The Judge: Do you wish to say any thing further, or do you leave your case in the hands of your counsel?

Prisoner: I don't know anything.

Mr. Lang summed up the evidence for the prosecution. He was clear from Dr. Gallagher's evidence that the persons taken to the hospital were suffering from arsenical poison, and that the girl, Radhee, died from arsenical poison. Dr. Gahlagher said that, if the girl had remained in Bombay, she might have lived. That was no answer or defence to the charge made against the prisoner, who was responsible for the crime whether the girl lived or died. Prisoner made his confession voluntarily before the magistrate and the coroner, and the jury were entitled to take them into consideration, more especially as they were corroborated by the independent evidence of witnesses called before the jury. The learned advocate submitted that the case against the prisoner had been made out, if not with absolute certainty, at least with such certainty as it was possible to secure in cases like this.

Mr. Kirkpatrick, for the defence, argued that it would not be safe to convict the prisoner on such evidence as had been adduced. It was impossible to deny that these persons were poisoned, and that the girl died of poison, but the question was, who administered the poison? If the jury came to the conclusion that the poison came from the hands of the prisoner, then the second question was, did it come from the hands of the prisoner under such circumstances as to render him liable to be hanged? There was no evidence whatever, except the prisoner's own statement, that he was in possession of the poison. Wittoo Dhondoo, who was supposed to have given it to prisoner, had been discharged, and there was absolutely no evidence to show that the prisoner had poison in his possession. Dr. Chevers mentioned the cases of persons who, suffering under a delusion, made confessions of murder of persons who were still living, and the learned counsel asked the jury to receive the alleged confessions in this case with extreme caution. It could scarcely be believed that the prisoner came down consciously to Bombay, to commit the murder of his friend Appa Gunnoo for the consideration of two rupees paid for his expenses. It might be that the poison lay in the rust, of the sweetmeat-seller's copper-pots; or in the lime in the betel-nut, or in the paper in which the packets of sweetmeat were done up. Then another point was that the accused ate some of the sweetmeat himself. The learned counsel urged that there was no evidence of any guilty knowledge on the part of the prisoner, or any evidence that he intended to take any life. It was in evidence that there was a criminal neglect of the girl's life, for had she been allowed to remain in hospital, she would have recovered. Even if it was proved that the poison was in the hands of the poisoner, Mr. Kirkpatrick argued that there was no proof of a guilty knowledge on his part.

His lordship, in summing up the case, said that even if the prisoner intended deliberately to kill Appa, and the girl Radhee, died, he would be guilty of murder. The fact that the girl was taken away from the hospital could not be any defence on behalf of the prisoner if the jury were satisfied on the rest of the case that the prisoner administered the poison. It was absolutely immaterial what the motive was; if the prisoner knew that he was given poison, and administered it with that knowledge, he would be guilty of murder. With reference to the confession, no corroboration was absolutely necessary if the jury believed that it was freely made and correctly taken down by the magistrate. Again, it was not necessary that there should be corroboration of all the details. It was enough if there was substantial corroboration of the main points.

The jury, after a short consultation, returned a unanimous verdict of not guilty, and the prisoner was discharged.

THE SECUNDERABAD MURDER.

ALLEGED MURDER BY EUROPEAN SOLDIERS.

JAMES MELROSE, a Private of the 21st Hussars, and Henry Walker, a Private of the Northampton Regiment, were charged with having, on the 8th ultimo, at Secunderabad, committed murder by causing the death of Mrs. Ogden, a Madrasee Christian, and also with culpable homicide not amounting to murder. The prisoners were committed for trial by Mr. I. C. E. Biddulph, Cantonment Magistrate of Secunderabad. The Hon. Mr. Lang, Advocate-General, with Mr. S. Bayley, instructed by the Public Prosecutor, appeared for the Crown; and Mr. Russell and Mr. Kirkpatrick, instructed by Messrs. Crawford, Burder, and Bayley, appeared for the first and second accused, respectively. The undermentioned gentlemen were empannelled upon the

SPECIAL JURY.

Mr. H. Gill, foreman.
Mr. A. S. Season. Mr. G. Marshall.
Mr. R. N. Mant. Mr. A. J. Brooks.
Mr. G. H. Townsend. Mr. C. H. S. Boggo.
Mr. D. A. Duigan. Mr. Dossabhoy E. Mehta.

The facts of the case, which will be found detailed in the evidence of Mrs. Gallway or Mrs. Melrose, were briefly these. The murder was committed by one or the other prisoner either on Sunday, the 8th, or the morning of Monday, the 9th ultimo. The woman, Mrs. Ogden, was kep by the prisoner Walker, a Private in the Northampton Regiment. She lived in the bazar at Secunderabad. On the evening of the 8th ultimo, Melrose and Mrs. Gallway drove out to the room of Mrs. Ogden, and she was induced to drive out to Mrs. Gallway's, where the prisoner Walker was. All of them had been drinking freely of country-liquor called "doobarra." Late that night or early next morning, Melrose laid down, and Mrs. Ogden, having taken off her clothes, also laid down notwithstanding the remonstrances of Walker, who struck her. There was then a fight between Melrose and Walker, after which the former again laid down where Mrs. Ogden was. Walker had his clothes and shoes brought to him by Mrs. Gallway, and he left the house in a great rage, vowing that he would kill Mrs. Ogden on the first opportunity, and would, meanwhile, go and burn her clothes at her place. A short time afterwards, the noise of some one striking with a stick came from where Melrose and Mrs. Ogden were. Mrs. Gallway saw him first striking her with his fists, after which the blows with the stick were heard. The police were called to the room about 3 a.m., when Melrose was seen lying down there. Mrs. Ogden lying dead on the floor, and the wall of the room covered with blood. There was blood also upon Melrose's hands. He was arrested, and the police officer said that he was then "blind drunk." Walker was seen near the place about 10, a.m., on the morning of the 9th, and was also arrested. Each of the prisoners had made a statement exonerating himself.

Mr. A. D. C. Murray produced a plan of the premises which he had made.

Cecilia Gallway, "alias" Mrs. Melrose a Madrasee Christian, said she lived in Ammagudom, in Secunderabad, and was kept by the accused Melrose. She had been in his keeping about six years and had two children by him. On the morning of the 9th ultimo, Melrose visited her, and a man named Reilly also came. About 7 p.m., they three left in a tonga for the Northampton Barracks. Melrose suggested going to Mrs. Ogden's, and they drove to Cook's Patcherry in the bazaar. They got there about 10 p.m. After Reilly came, Melrose and he had been drinking. Witness had also been drinking with them. Melrose and Reilly were not very sober. They found Mrs. Ogden at home, and the prisoner Walker was also there. They had another bottle of the same liquor they had before, which is called "doobarra." They remained there about half an hour. Mrs. Ogden proposed going to witness's house Walker told her not to go, but she persisted. They then drove in the tonga by the Northampton guards-room. Walker answered to his name, and came back. They then drove to the 21st Hussars guard-room, where Melrose answered to his name and returned. All four of them then drove in the tonga to witness's house, where Melrose asked for a drink. Witness sent Antone for a bottle of the same liquor called "doobarra." They reached witness's room about midnight. When the liquor came, they drank it. Witness could not say when they finished the bottle. After some time, Melrose went out and came back again in about five minutes. He pulled off his shoes and laid down in a bed called "pial," i.e., an elevated bed. Walker and witness were sitting in a box singing. Mrs. Ogden took off her clothes and went to bed with her boots and stockings on. Walker, when he saw this, asked her to come away. She refused to come, and Walker hit her on the face with his open hand. Melrose got up and hit Walker. They then fought. Mrs. Ogden was then lying down in bed. Witness then went into Kemp's room, to nurse her child which was there. She sat down near the door of the room. Walker then passed the door, and told witness he was going home. He said the first chance he got he would kill her (Mrs. Ogden), and he was going home to take his clothes. As witness went to get his clothes, she saw Melrose and Mrs. Ogden in bed. They were misbehaving. She asked Melrose what he was doing, when he threatened to strike her. She got Walker's clothes and gave them to him. She told Walker that Melrose and Mrs. Ogden were in bed, and he then said he would kill her Mrs. Ogden. Witness came inside and called a native girl named Madooroy in order to go and see what they were doing. She said to Melrose "what are you doing," when Melrose told her to go out and threatened to strike her if she did not. She then saw Melrose striking the woman (Mrs. Ogden) with his fists. Madooroy also looked into the room. Witness went to Kemp's room and told him what occurred. Kemp did not come. She stood near the door of Kemp's room, when she heard a noise of sticks. She went and told Kemp, who did not say anything. The noise was still going on, and she again spoke to Kemp. The noise she heard was that of some one beating with a stick. Witness then sent the native boy Antone for the police. Sergeant Close came and went to witness's room. Before he came, the noise ceased, and on going to the door, she saw Mrs. Ogden lying on the floor. She got frightened, and could not see where Melrose was. The thicken of the two sticks before the court was Melrose's. Walker had not taken away his stick, because witness had not given it to him.

The court then adjourned till 11 o'clock to-day (Thursday).

ABOUT WALERS.

I THINK writes a correspondent to the "Pioneer," few people in India sufficiently recognise what a large country Australia is, and what a great variety of climate it has. Gippsland, and Victoria generally, are temperate: new South Wales is almost too hot for a white man: whilst Queensland is tropical. This being the case then, if a horse is wanted to work in tropical India, would it not be more according to reason to procure one which has been born and bred in the northern, or tropical, parts of Australia? Surely such a horse must be able to endure heat, and "stand" tropical India's climate, far better than one from the temperate south.

The Government of India have horsed the Artillery and British Cavalry with walers; and it would be interesting to know if they have studied this question. As far as I can learn they have not.

The horses in these corps are, as a whole, excellent, as regards looks. But are they the best fitted for campaigning? Can they stand exposure and short rations? My own small experience is that a waler—if he be well mannered and well bred—is by far the nicest horse of any in India, to ride or drive. But he seems to need careful stabling and very generous diet. Undoubtedly he feels the heat and is oppressed by it, far more than a country-bred or Arab. Witness the horses in the Bombay trams. The waler is an excellent horse for a man who keeps out of the sun as much as possible and who can afford to "do" his animal well. But he is not the horse for a ticca-gharri or a police sowar. Yet, on active service, our horses may be called on to undergo the greatest exertions and deprivations. As far as I can ascertain nearly all our walers come from Victoria and New South Wales. Nor would the Queensland, or north-western Australian horse be as delicate in our Indian climate as those from the temperate south? It appears to me that it is very probable they would not. At any rate it seems worth while to make the experiment of getting horses from various parts of Australia and taking careful notes of their capabilities.

Remount Officers might be instructed to make inquiries as to where each horse they buy next year was bred; and to brand the Victorian ones, with a V, the New South Wales ones with a N, the Queenslanders with a Q, and the western Australians with an S (Swan River.) They would thus be no difficulty in tracing the locality of birth in after years.

But importers would certainly be opposed to such a trial, as their connections are all in the south, and they would not be able to buy so advantageously in the north. Moreover, it is said that it is almost impossible to get horses of the stamp we need in the north. This may be so just at present: but were the demand made known they would very soon be forthcoming. Enough could certainly be got to make an experiment.

To give the theory a fair trial it would be advisable to depute a Remount Officer to Australia, and authorise his purchasing horses in those parts which most nearly resembled our Indian climate. This officer might further be directed to ascertain if stallions for the Horse-Breeding Department could not be bought more cheaply in Australia than England. I hear the ones now sent from home cost from £250 to £350; and yet very few of them are as good as the walers to be had in Calcutta for about Rs. 1,500. I think there is no question that the waler has, as a rule, better legs and feet, and is more hardy than the English horse in India. If—as I understand—stallions, with bone and power, are to be bought for £100 to £150 in the Colonies, it would seem to be both economical and wise to get our supply thence, instead of from England. I belive the constitutions of many walers are injured for life by the dreadful sufferings they undergo in the journey to India. At Bombay last winter there were two batches standing side by side. One was piteous to see the other did credit to the importer and his assistants. This proved that it is possible to bring horses over in good condition. It would probably have a good effect if Remount Officers were not allowed to pay the full contract price for all horses out of condition. Many of the horses in the first batch would not be fit for work for at least six months; and this means probably an additional expense of Rs. 150. It would be only fair to deduct this sum from the Government average price.

IN the course of many conversations which I have recently had, writes a Moscow correspondent, with various members of the wealthy Trade Guilds of this city, I find that the most sanguine anticipations obtain with regard to the largely increased commercial and industrial prosperity which is expected to accrue to the old Russian capital with the completion of the great Siberian Railway. Moscow's trading relations with China, and with the Far East generally, will, it is confidently assumed, receive new life and vigour, and an incalculably greater development, from the direct communication and facile means of rapid transport which the new trans-continental line will establish between the heart of Asia and the heart of European Russia. Moscow and the Muscovites are to be the largest beneficiares from the exploitation of the hitherto dormant natural wealth of the minerally rich provinces of Eastern and Western Siberia. That the opening up of those vast regions will bring an increase of commercial prosperity to Moscow is very probable, but the process of the increase will be extremely slow.

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THE NATIVE PRESS.

CONVOCATION ADDRESS AT MADRAS UNIVERSITY.

THE Madras University has a practice which has certain advantages over that prevailing in Bombay or Calcutta. The "Indian Spectator" says of it: "The convocation address in Madras is delivered by a Fellow of the University, who is chosen every year for that purpose. This gives greater variety to the Madras addresses. The last address was delivered by the Hon. Mr. Justice Subramanya Iyer, the gentleman who presided over the Social Conference held the year before last in Madras. The chief point in Mr. Subramanya's address is the emphasis he laid on the importance of individual character. He had a good word to say for female education, and his advice to political reformers, not to submit to a caucus and to be careful of what they condemn, is appropriate at the present juncture. Mr. Justice Subramanya Iyer insisted that every social reformer should prove his words by his acts. Reform yourself before you reform the community, he said. Some people may stigmatise this as advocating the method of rebellion; but it is significant, coming from a gentleman of such sober views as Mr. Subramanya Iyer." The "Gujerati" writes: "Though, the constitution of the Madras University is in some repects conservative in its character, it enjoys the rare privilege of inviting any distinguished Indian or European to deliver the annual convocation address. We wish this practice were introduced into the sister universities as well. Its special advantage lies in the fact that scholars holding various shades of opinion on educational questions get an opportunity to lay their mature views before the public. It would largely conduce to the cause of education in this presidency if men like Professor Selby, the Hon. Mr. Justice Ranade, the Hon. Mr P. M. Mehta, the Hon. Mr. Justice Budruddin Tyebji and some of the distinguished professors of private and Government Colleges had an opportunity, as in Madras, to deliver the annual convocation address." The "Subodha Prakash" observes: "Now that so many reforms are being advocated to improve the University of Bombay, we would draw the attention of the progeress party in the Senate to the practice in the Madras University of asking distinguished Fellows of the Senate to address the graduates on the occasion of their obtaining their degrees. This gives an opportunity to the public to know the opinions of eminent men who constitute the Senate on the pressing educational problems of the day."

PRESIDENT OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE.

The "Kaiser-i-Hind" speaks of the re-appointment of Dr. Bhalchandra as Chairman of the Municipal Standing Committee in these terms: Dr. Bhalchandra is re-appointed chairman of the Standing Committee for another year. His colleagues voted him to the chair with hearty unanimity. As mover of the proposition, Mr. Dharmsey paid Dr. Bhalchandra a compliment to his regularity, business capacity, and untiring energy, which was as graceful, as it was well deserved. When the doctor stood for the Standing Committee about five years ago, there were many who wondered whether, with his extensive professional practice and other public engagements, he would find time to attend pretty regularly the weekly meetings of the Standing Committee. It is no small tribute to his energy and his public spirit that he has not only proved himself one of the most regular members of that body but has taken an active and intelligent part in its deliberations; that he has not only proved himself a most useful member of the Committee, but that, when he was appointed Chairman, he showed that he had yet a further store of energy in reserve to enable him to perform the really arduous duties of this office with thoroughness and efficiency."

POLITICAL EDUCATION A CURSE.

Referring to Sir A. Mackenzie's recent speech at the City College, Calcutta, the "Indian Spectator" remarks: "With all his desire to see moral instruction forming part of the Government's duty towards the children attending its schools, Sir Alexander could not help sharing the views of the late lamented Mr. Telang as to the impracticability of enforcing such instruction through text-books. But at the same time the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal was not slow to give a piece of advice to the young men before him, and through them, to the student world in India at large. He told them how essential was the traditional 'guru-bhakti' of our race, the devotion of the pupil to his teacher. This ideal has undoubtedly become lax, mainly, we fear, through the ferment we have allowed to call political education. That political education must prove a curse, which teaches defiance of lawful authority and which drives the youth of the country into excesses of disobedience on set purpose. Happily, there is not much of this evil visible in our day; but what little of it exists is likely to spread, unless put down in time. There can be no watchwords more treacherous for the Indian students, as models and independence. Of these we can have little before our homes have become favourable to their growth. India must have free mothers before her children know real freedom. Till then we must make shift with such feeble substitutes as are available to us, and are often in danger of developing the reverse of freedom in the name of that sacred attribute. It is the duty of every truly educated Indian to insist upon our students distinguishing between true freedom and false."

FEMALE EDUCATION AMONG MAHOMEDANS.

The "Indian Spectator" notices with pleasure the telling appeal made by Mrs. Budrudin Tyebuji at the prize-distribution, lately celebrated at Pedder Road, of the Jairajbhai Pirbhai Girls' School, to her co-religionists, to remove the stigma resting on them, of being extremely backward in education, whilst other communities are advancing rapidly and leaving the followers of Islam at greater and greater distance behind. Women's words are said to be more persuasive than men's, and we hope Mrs. Bndrudin's appeal will do more than the advice of enlightened leaders of the male sex and of high Government officials has hitherto done

PURELY PERSONAL.

It is announced from Copenhagen that Princesses Victoria and Maud and the Duke and Duchess of York will be present at the marriage of Princess Louise of Denmark and Prince Friedric of Schaumberg-Lippe in May. In Court circles it is believed that before going to Denmark the Princess of Wales will visit the Dowager Czarina at Nice.

It transpires that the departure of Commissioner Booth-Tucker to America was delayed by a strange incident. As the pilot was being discharged at Southampton a telegram was handed on board, stating that the Commissioner's infant child was dying. Mrs. Booth Tucker wanted to be put ashore, but as she is in delicate health her husband thought it would be highly inadvisable for her to scramble down the rope ladder, so he landed himself and came on to London, Mrs. Tucker sailing alone. Since then the health of the child has improved, and Mr. Booth-Tucker was to follow his wife by next mail.

Trooper Dreyer, who was the life and soul of the wounded Jamesoanians at the Krugers drop hospital, had a story which he used to tell "with a naughty little twinkle in his eye." As thus:—"You see, boys, it was just at the begining of the busines, and we had been fighting, and I got badly hit. Jameson missed me at once. Calling a trooper to his side, the doctor demanded, in a hoarse undertone, where the ——I was. 'Dreyer, sir?' 'Yes—Dreyer, sir.' 'Sorry, sir, but Dreyer's been shot!' 'What—Dreyer shot! and in his first engagement, too! Then its all over. Up with the white flag.' And then the band played."

A correspondent at Monte Carlo described an amusing scene the other day. An American lady was making a great noise because the manager declined to pay her more than £10, whilst they had given a French lady £12 with which to return to Paris. "Why, I have spent thousands of dollars here," she said, "whilst this lady came to Monte Carlo with about a louis in her pocket, andhas been living up in roule ver since. I want £410 to take me back to New York, an' I will make a row until I get it." The Casino people detest a scene in or about the rooms, and the manager endeavoured to pacify her with an offer of £10, under the plea that this sum would take her to London, and she could then communicate with her friends. No! She did not intend to go sponging on her friends in London. The gambling tables had taken from her the whole of the funds which she brought with her for a tour in Europe; unfortunately she had stopped too long at Monte Carlo. Now the bank must take her back again. And she succeeded in getting her £40.

A smoking concert took place the other day at a public-house just outside Birmingham. The gentleman who presided wore an elaborately-trimmed smoking-cap, and when one of the artists mounted the platform and warbled forth, "Where did you get that hat" the chairman turned a threatening look upon the vocalist. Coming to the chorus, the singer continued to ask, "Where did you get that hat?" until the chairman could stand it no longer. Jumping up he struck the vocalist ablow on the nose which landed him on his book off the platform, shouting, "I'll tell you where I got my hat, I'll teach you to make fun of my hat!" The surprised and injured vocalist arose from the floor, and wiping the blood from his nose, inquired what was meant by such outrageous conduct. The chairman explained that he would never tolerate anyone poking fun at him, and when he was told that the song was an old concert-hall favourite he expressed surprise, professed profound ignorance of that fact and offered to apologise for what he had done. The vocalist declined to accept any apology, and notified his intention of finishing the song, and then "taking it out of the chairman" outside.

Mr. Labouchere, quoting the word "poppycock," from the letter of an American correspondent, says:—"I don't want to give myself away in the face of my American admirers, but what is poppycock? There is nothing I admire more about 'our kin beyond the sea' than their capacity for enriching the mother tongue with new and suggestive terms. As a journalist, 'poppycock' strikes me as a highly promising addition to our limited vocabulary. Hence my desire for enlightenment." "Labby" has evidently not cultivated his knowledge of his mother tongue as assiduously as he has his dislike and contempt for America and Americans; else he never would have made such a "break" as to consider a good old classical English word a bit of Yankee slang. Surely as accomplished a linguist and man of the world should remember the French "papegal" and "papegau" and the Italian "papagallo," meaning a parrot, a noisy jay, or a talking cock. When, therefore, an appreciative critic calls "Labby's" lucubrations "poppycock," he merely means that their author is a chattering rooster, who should not be taken too seriously.

The name Arthur which the First Lord of the Treasury bears was chosen by his mother, out of respect for the great Duke of Wellington. The fact aprears in a paper on Lady Blanche Balfour, in the April "Good Words," by the Rev. Dr. Richardson of Whittinghame. The Duke was specially fond of Lady Blanche. A gift of his was a plan of the field of Waterloo, copied from one made before the battle was fought. The old coachman at Whittinghame used to tell with pride that when the Duke and Lady Blanche happened to be at the same evening party it was always he who conducted her to her carriage.

One experience which Dr. Robertson tells redounds greatly to the credit of the Balfour family. The Lancashire cotton famine stirred Lady Blanche Balfour's sympathy greatly. It occurred at a time when her establishment had been much reduced, and she used the opportunity to make a novel proposal to her children. It was that if they liked to do the work of the house any money that was saved in this way would go to the help of the distressed people. The children agreed, and the kitchen was made over to Lady Blanche's daughters, who did the family cooking with some assistance. Lady Blanche's sons, Arthur and Gerald, had also work of the house which they could do allotted them—such as cleaning of boots and knives—and no doubt the work was done well.

The New York correspondent of the "Chronicle" telegraphs the following:—Mr. Crouch, the composer of the music of "Kathleen Mavourneen," is said to be dying in a miserable garret at Baltimore. This is an old story, and is printed by the American papers about once every three months. We trust that the statement about the song-writer's "dying" now is as untrue as it was a year ago, and that the "miserable garret" is also an imaginary touch. We mistake the feelings of Irishmen if they allowed one who embodied in so beautiful a lyric their feelings and aspirations to die—or live—in any such place.

Their German Majesties are now on their spring tour in Italy, and the Court will, during their absence, remove from Berlin to Potsdam. After Easter the Imperial youngsters will also go to the latter place, but the three eldest Princes go almost immediately to the cadet-school at Picen, where they are to continue their education. Six other cadets will join the three Princes in their military studies; three of them are the sons of noblemen, and three are commoners. Thus each Prince has for companions two cadets of different social standing. The three Imperial boys look forward with great expectation to their life at Picen and to the companionship of other boys.

Bismarck I. is a much more gallant gentleman than Bismarck II. The wife of Count Herbert Bismarck has lately given birth to her second child. Like her first child, the latest addition to this great historic family is also a daughter. No Bismarck III. has appeared in the world as yet. Count Wilhelm, the younger son of the old statesman, is the father of daughters only. He has grandsons, it is true, but they are the children of his daughter Marie, and will consequently bear the name of Rantzau. Count Herbert was sorely distressed at the sex of his last child, and telegraphed the sad news to his father in three short words: "Nur ein Madchen" (Only a girl). Hereupon the grim old prince wired to his son, "No matter; remember Marie was only a girl."

Much has been printed about Mr. Chamberlain and his orchids. One fact mentioned in the April "Cassell's Magazine" may, however, not be generally known, and that is that about twenty gardeners are usually employed at Highbury, the care of the orchids making the demand of the whole of the time of three of the number. For the welfare of these plants an experienced orchidist is held responsible; but Mr. Chamberlain himself still contrives to take a keen personal interest in their cultivation. On his Saturday to Monday visits, and when residing at Highbury during the Parliamentary Recess, the best part of his little leisure is spent in the plant houses. Every plant is numbered according to a private catalogue the right hon. gentleman himself keeps, and the gardeners declare that every one of the five or six thousand specimens at Highbury is individually known to him.

Mr. J. Henniker-Heaton, M.P., in the same magazine, in a plea for cheaper cable rates—there would be, says he, a profit in a rate of two cents (1d.) a word between England and America and ten cents (5d.) a word between England and Australia—recalls an interesting incident:—Two years ago the son of a wealthy nobleman lay in San Francisco suffering from typhoid fever. Care and skill were lavished upon him, and still his fate remained uncertain. His friends longed to obtain the advice of the great English physician, Sir Andrew Clark, but Sir Andrew could not be brought over in time. Nevertheless, his aid was obtained—for what can money not do? The famous doctor went to the London end of the cable; the other end was laid into the sick room in California. Thus a strange consultation was held under the sea between the English medical authority and his American colleagues, the very beat of the sufferer's pulse being registered from time to time, thousands of miles away. The lad recovered. Who shall say, asks Mr. Heaton, how many lives might be saved if the millions who are not wealthy could communicate as easily with those across the seas?

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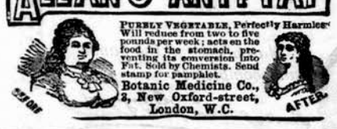

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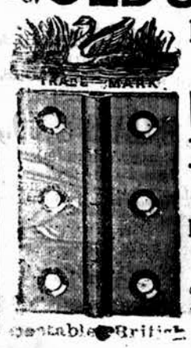

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